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# USSR Report

POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

No. 1325

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## INTERNATIONAL

### JAPANESE NOVEL ATTACKED AS ANTI-SOVIET

Baku VYSHKA in Russian 7 Sep 82 p 4

[Article by APN correspondent V Namyatov: "Mass Circulation of Nonsense"]

[Text] Let us begin with a quotation.... "This happened in Japan in late eighties. A Soviet submarine attacked a Japanese tanker, thus beginning a blockade of maritime communications of the island state. The lack of oil had a catastrophic effect on Japanese economy. Attempts to switch to other sources of energy were frustrated: graduates of the Friendship of Peoples University imeni Patrice Lumumba, who were trained as terrorists during their years of studies in Moscow, blew up the existing hydroelectric and nuclear power station stations.

"A trade union leader, who had a love affair with a Soviet woman during his trip to the USSR, is blackmailed by Soviet embassy associates into instigating strikes. Unable to cope with the economic and social crisis, the country's leadership appealed to the United States for help. But it turns out that Europe is more important to America and Japan finds itself face to face with the Soviet Union, which immediately uses bacteriological weapons. In exchange for drugs needed to save the Japanese people dying from the plague, the northern neighbor demands that the country's social system be changed. A coalition government with the participation of socialists is formed.... The Japanese prime minister receives regular instructions from the Soviet ambassador....

"Moscow's long-nurtured crafty plans were thus implemented, allowing it without special effort and even without bloodshed to conquer Japan, which is "lost" to the free world."

"What kind of nonsense is this?" a reader may ask. It is real nonsense. Published in a two-volume edition, this masterpiece by Shintaro Ishihara is entitled "The Loss of a Country" and has appeared on the book counters in Japan. The Kadokawa Shoten publishing house, which released it, has introduced this "canard" as a political novel.

A political novel? Perhaps. But only owing to a single reason: the author is a politician. It is precisely this that has drawn attention to this literary work, if one may call it so.

S Ishihara is a parliament member of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party. A person who passes laws must know and observe them. Article 43 of the country's constitution states that a member of the highest organ of state authority "represents all people." This makes it incumbent upon him to bear full responsibility for words and deeds not only before his own people but before people of other countries as well. Lack of sympathy for the Soviet Union is Ishihara's personal business, but instilling feelings of hatred for that country, artificial forcing of fear of a nonexistent "threat from the north" and a striving to slander the sincere wishes of the Soviet people to live in a spirit of good neighborliness and peaceful cooperation with Japan is political adventurism.

In a brief review of the parliamentarian's novel, the newspaper ASAHI wrote: "It is useful to read this book if only for the purpose of understanding the thinking of Japanese political 'hawks'." This is a fair observation. It is clear from the book that there is nothing new in the thoughts of bourgeois reactionaries compared with that which has filled the columns of bourgeois newspapers and speeches by the apologists of anticommunism during the entire length of our state's existence.

9817

CSO: 1800/1326

## INTERNATIONAL

### AFGHAN OFFICIAL OUTLINES KABUL'S NOMAD POLICY

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 29 Aug 82 p 3

[Novosti article special for SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' by Solayman Laeq, Afghan minister of nationalities and tribal affairs: "How the Afghan Nomads Live"]

[Text] The fundamental socioeconomic transformations that have taken place in Afghanistan since the April Revolution in 1978 have affected all strata of Afghan society, including the almost 3 million nomads living in the country. It is difficult to overestimate the complexity of the problems that have arisen in this connection. For most of the year the tribes living a nomadic way of life move about in search of fodder for their animals: in summer they are in the central and northern regions of the country, in the winter they are in the south or in Pakistan. The rearing of sheep, camels, horses and asses is the main occupation of the nomads, who provide the country with much wool, skins, meat, fats and other livestock produce.

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan has given much attention to improving the life of the nomadic tribes. With the assumption of power by the PDPA, government policy in this area has been reflected in state legislative acts, including "Basic Principles of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan"--the country's interim constitution. It states in article 20 that the state guarantees to the nomadic tribes the opportunity to make free use of pastures, and also the right to move freely about the territory of the country. They are granted state subsidies and bank loans under privileged conditions and are being helped to develop livestock farming and production conditions and to improve their material well-being and cultural level and given other essential aid.

Great significance attaches to the plans worked out by the DRA government for the gradual settlement of all nomads desiring tracts of land through fallow land brought into use by the state. Some nomads will be engaged in farming and others will rear domestic animals on the permanent pastures they acquire. With their transfer to a settled way of life, permanent schools, medical establishments and veterinary stations can be set up.

And do these people, who have spent all their lives as nomads, want to settle in one place? I am sure that they do. As a child I lived in a tribe closely associated with the nomads and I well know that they want to have even just a little tract of land.

The measures drawn up by the revolutionary authorities to improve the life of the nomads has encountered furious resistance from reactionary forces within the country and from their foreign patrons and preceptors. Trying to put the nomads on a collision course with the DRA government, the counterrevolutionaries regularly send agents provocateurs among the tribes to spread rumors that Islam is threatened in Afghanistan and to call upon the tribes to wage an armed struggle against the republic's government. It can be stated on the best authority that these maneuvers by reaction have utterly failed, and not one single tribe has tolerated the counterrevolutionaries in its camp. The nomads can see for themselves that all the mosques in the country are functioning and that new ones are under construction, and that Muslim rituals and customs are being observed. As they roam about the country they cannot fail to notice the changes that have taken place in the lives of simple people since the revolution or to see the monstrous crimes of the counterrevolutionary bands.

I recently conversed with the elders of a number of tribes. Their astonishingly correct understanding of the transformations taking place in the country surprised me. Many of the nomadic tribes are expressing their support for the revolution in deeds. In (Paktiya) province in the region of the (Zurmat) village, for example, a nomadic tribe recently engaged in a battle against a counterrevolutionary band and destroyed it. Many such examples could be cited.

Much effort is still needed to bring the millions of nomads out of their age-long backwardness and onto the road of comprehensive progress. A start has already been made to this process.

9642

CSO: 1800/1260

## INTERNATIONAL

### PERSIAN BROADCAST ON SUPPORT FOR PLO CRITICIZES 'SOME OFFICIALS'

Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 23 Sep 82

[Sixth talk in series by (Vladimir Volinskiy) on the Soviet Union's stance on the PLO]

[Text] The Palestinian issue, our topic of discussion today, gives rise to concern among many Iranians. Unfortunately, when explaining and interpreting this issue in Iran, the Soviet Union's stance is sometimes deliberately misrepresented. Some allege that some type of collusion exists between the Soviet Union and the United States on this issue. One cannot imagine a lie more gross and more dreadful than this. Nevertheless, efforts are made in Iran to disseminate this fabrication. Let us now see what the facts are.

In 1948, after the dissolution of the colonialist imperialist empires, the UN adopted a decision on the formation of two states in the Near East--Israel and the Arab Palestinian nation. However, the regime that came to power in Israel started implementing the policy of forcefully usurping territories belonging to the Arab Palestinians. The Israeli leaders could not have implemented this policy without the support of their mentors on the other side of the ocean. Thus, a dangerous hotbed of world tensions was created.

The forces of world imperialism, led by the United States, supported Israel while the world's progressive forces, in which the Soviet Union plays an important and outstanding role, supported the true path of the Palestinians.

The Palestinian movement then started enjoying the effective support of Arab countries. This applied especially at the time when the Egypt of Gamal 'Abd al-Nasir led their struggles. During Al-Nasir's rule, friendship between Egypt and the Soviet Union had been strengthened and this helped foil the imperialists' plans against the Arab Palestinians. Israel's aggression against Egypt and Syria in 1967, which was supported by the United States, failed and was neutralized because of the stance and decisive policy of the Soviet Union and other progressive countries.

The Soviet Union assisted Egypt and Syria in rehabilitating their armed forces. The era of determined struggles to wipe out the results of Israel's aggression started, with the ultimate objective to ensure the rights of the Arab Palestinians for an independent and free existence.



In 1973, Egypt and Syria resorted to military activities against Israel to regain their usurped territories. The successful military operations of the Egyptian and Syrian armies in the very first days of the war not only stemmed from the high patriotic morale of the Egyptian and Syrian forces but also because of these forces' high expertise in the use of war techniques taught to them by Soviet experts as well as the delivery of excellent arms by the Soviet Union. Despite U.S. assistance and support, Israel was politically and militarily defeated. For the first time favorable conditions emerged for the just solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the ultimate fulfillment of the rights of the Arab Palestinians.

However, when after Gamal 'Abd al-Nasir's death Anwar al-Sadat gained power in Egypt, it became obvious that he had other plans. Al-Sadat's goal was to restore and strengthen the U.S. positions in the Near East after they had been considerably weakened by the strong wave of the anti-imperialist movement. Al-Sadat peffidiously betrayed the Arab Palestinians. When in December 1973 an international conference on the peaceful solution of the Near East problem was held in Geneva and the Soviet Union strove toward a just solution of the Palestinian problem during this conference, the representatives of Al-Sadat's Egypt left the conference. Al-Sadat blatantly embarked on the path of separate agreements with Israel with U.S. assistance. The Camp David agreements, concluded after these steps, inflicted a strong blow to the Palestinian movement first and foremost. These agreements were actually the beginning of a new phase in Israel's aggression against the Palestinians, which led to the present calamity in Lebanon.

The Soviet Union always seriously and decisively opposed the conclusion of separate agreements with Israel. We support a comprehensive solution of the Near East problem, the basis of which is to ensure the right of the Arab Palestinians to form an independent national state. This has always been the case, and this is the way it is now and the way it will always be. In his toast at a luncheon in honor of PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev stressed this point once again.

However, contrary to this, the United States of America fully supports Israel and thus oppose the formation of a state for the Palestinians. The approach to the Arab Palestinians' problem is one of the most important points on which the Soviet Union and the United States disagree. How then can one speak of collusion?

The author then writes: I also want to discuss the Soviet Union's principled policy toward other countries and nations. The Soviet Union never has and never will connive with anyone behind nations' backs on the destiny of nations. A week after the victory of Iran's revolution, on 18 February 1979, Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Tehran. (Vladimir Volinskiy) writes: I can clearly remember the fervor and enthusiasm with which Iranians, who had just overthrown the monarchy with arms in hand, welcomed Yasir 'Arafat. As everyone knows, the PLO assisted the Iranian revolution by training many steadfast combatants who are the true patriots in the new Iran. Yasir 'Arafat had held talks with Khomeyni, Taleqani and other leaders of the revolution. Thus good possibilities were emerging for the cooperation between the revolutionary forces of the Near and Middle East.



But 2 years later some officials, who had high positions in Iran, undoubtedly started paying less attention to the Palestinian movement and even inattentive observers became aware of this. More calls were heard to replace the Palestinian movement--a movement that had emerged after difficult struggles from the depth of the Palestinian people--with a revised movement, in other words, with a general Islamic movement. Few are the people who are aware of the specific meaning of this term. It is surprising that these calls came from Iran chiefly in the United States, throughout the entire prerevolutionary period and during the Iranian revolution. Many involuntarily ask: How can the movement of one nation and this nation's struggles be defined as the struggle of other forces which is trying to achieve other objectives? Doesn't this call and activity detract the Arab Palestinians' attention from their objectives?

Changes can be seen in the Arab world too. As you know, during the so-called Rameisan war of 1973, all the Arab countries and first and foremost the oil-producing countries declared a boycott of the United States and other pro-Israeli countries. But now, after Israel's aggression against Lebanon, these countries have not resorted to such a measure. This situation to a certain extent results from the fact that Egypt concluded a direct deal with Israel and the United States. Also, the war between Iran and Iraq, which was fomented by Washington and has been continuing for 2 years, prevents the consolidation of anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist unity. Israel and the United States, which is backing it, hastily used all these points to inflict a new blow on the Palestinian movement; the recent incidents in Lebanon are the result of this blow.

Our country, the Soviet Union, does its best to thwart U.S. efforts to decimate the Arab Palestinians by Israel's hands. In a special appeal to President Reagan recently, Leonid Brezhnev pointed out that the direct responsibility of the crimes committed by the Israeli aggressors in Lebanon lies with the United States. He demanded that the aggressor be halted and wrote that not only the Arab Palestinians but other nations too will never forget or forgive the savage bloodshed committed by the Israeli militants in Lebanon.

All those who are in fact working to ensure the victory of the just cause of the Arab Palestinians and, first and foremost, the Palestinian combatants themselves value this decisive Soviet stance, as is suitable. PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat said some days ago: The Soviet Union is our true friend and it did all it could to stop Israel's aggression.

Such remarks by leaders of the Palestinian movement unmask the slander of some people in Iran, who are trying to misrepresent the Soviet stance on the Arab Palestinians and their liberation movement.

CSO: 4600/36

## INTERNATIONAL

### SOCIAL CAUSES BEHIND ISLAMIC SECTARIANS OUTLINED

[Editorial Report] Moscow NAUKA I RELIGIYA in Russian No 9, Sep 82 carries on pp34-37 a 3200-word article titled "Kharidzhity" by N. Gainullin. The article describes the development of the first Muslim sect and argues that all Muslim sects have social-political rather than religious-doctrinal roots. And it quotes with approval a Lebanese Marxist's observation that this particular sect was responsible for the "' first social revolution in Islam'".

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CSO: 1800/63

### RELIGIOUS-NATIONALITY LINKAGE STUDIES AT INSTITUTE OF ASIAN AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES

[Editorial Report] Moscow NAUKA I RELIGIYA in Russian No 9, Sep 8s, carries on p 37 a 350-word article titled "At the Meeting Point of Sciences" by Yu. Lagoyev. It reports on the recent activities of a historical section in the scientific students society of the Institute of Asian and African Countries at Moscow State University. Among its recent topics of attention was "The Religious Factor in National-Ethnic Relations".

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CSO: 1800/64

## NATIONAL

### RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES DECLINE IN REGIONS WITH MORE INTERESTING SOVIET INSTITUTIONS

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 20 Aug 82 p 2

[A. Larionov report and editorial comment: "Will They Christen Denis?"]

[Text] Togliatti--The voice of the priest is emotional. Young mothers and fathers in jeans and stylish coats shyly whisper among themselves in the waiting room.

"I don't believe in god," said Marina K, holding a child wrapped in a quilt. "And I am sure that my son would be happy without a christening. But, you see, it's all so beautiful and ceremonial here." And then, with a sigh, she added: "Just take a look at our civil registry office."

We are in the civil registry office of the central rayon of Togliatti city. It is quiet and deserted because the firmly closed offices let out no sound. The fellow who has come in with me scratches the back of his head, perplexed. "Where now?" We introduce ourselves. A son has been born to Aleksandr Panin, a fitter from the Volga Automobile Plant. They have called him Denis.

We went into the registrar's office. "It's a bit gloomy here," Aleksandr remarked. And indeed the atmosphere was not joyful. Shabby walls, scant furnishings, the blinds an indeterminate color.

"We have been unable to have the place repaired for 2 years," senior civil registry inspector R.I. Gavlovskaya told us. "The blinds have not been replaced in 11 years! And this is no small matter."

Another civil registry office, this time in Avtozavodskiy rayon. Things are lively in the small, pleasant entrance hall with its soft armchairs. The smart apparel of the newlyweds and their friends and relations is reflected in large mirrors. The mood is one of elation and festivity.

Ceremonial meetings for mothers and their new babies when they leave the maternity home have also become a tradition here. The registration of the child's birth is done in a specially outfitted hall.

I learned that almost no one from the Avtozavodskiy rayon goes to the clergymen.

From our "interlocutor."

The opinion is sometimes heard that religious rituals are "beautiful, folk customs." It is not difficult, however, to show that their beauty is false through and through, and by participating in them, members of the Komsomol are not living up to their convictions. But convictions are not to be flouted. Each member of the Komsomol is obliged to observe undeviatingly the requirements of the Komsomol Charter with respect to religion and the church, and to be a militant atheist.

And which of our customs do you consider to be truly folk customs? What new rituals and customs have been established in your city or village? Write to us about them.

9642

CSO: 1800/1259

## NATIONAL

### UNION OFFICIAL SEES INCREASING TRADE UNION INFLUENCE IN USSR

Moscow PARTIYNAYA ZHIZN' in Russian No 14, Jul 82 pp 27-34

[Article by V. Prokhorov, deputy chairman, All-Union Central Trade Union Council: "Trade Unions -- Influential Force in Our Society"]

[Text] As we approach the important date -- the 60th anniversary of establishment of the USSR -- the political and labor activeness of Soviet citizens is increasing, as are the overall results of the fine deeds they are accomplishing. Our country is advancing to a higher level this year. This jubilee year is fated to contain a great many memorable sociopolitical events. One of them is the USSR 12th Trade Union Congress, held in March. The fruitful influence of the congress is being felt not only on the trade union movement but also on the practical affairs of Soviet society. The significance of the congress is defined by those program points which were advanced in the message of greeting by the party Central Committee and in the speech at the congress by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev. All party, governmental, and economic agencies as well as all mass worker organizations are presently being guided by these theses.

The congress highly praised the activities of Soviet trade unions. "I should like to note with satisfaction," stated Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, "that Soviet trade unions are playing a large and, frankly, indispensable role in accomplishing the multifaceted tasks which are being advanced by our highly dynamic times."

The vast scale and deep content of the work being done by Soviet trade unions, as well as their characteristic high degree of organization are a result of their many years of comprehensive development, which has taken place under the guidance of the Communist Party.

1.

This year the trade union movement in our country is celebrating its 75th anniversary. Trade union associations of the Russian proletariat were born on the barricades of the first Russian revolution and were toughened in the tenacious struggle against the czarist autocracy. The trade unions were ruthlessly repressed by the police. Going through years of dismal reaction and expanding their ranks in years of revolutionary upsurge, they took active part in the revolutionary assault in October 1917. They owe their existence and diversified activities for the benefit of the worker masses entirely to the Leninist Party, which at all historical stages has displayed the greatest interest in their work and their fate.



Following the victory of the Great October Revolution, the trade unions were an essential component of the system of dictatorship of the proletariat and became a reliable support of the party in all its activities pertaining to building a state of workers and peasants. V. I. Lenin wrote in 1920: "Without the closest relationship with the trade unions, without their enthusiastic support, without their selfless work not only in economic but also in military organizational development, we of course would have been unable to run the country and implement dictatorship not only for two and a half years but even for two and a half months" ("Poln. Sobr. Soch." [Complete Works], Vol 41, page 31).

From the very first days of the October Revolution the trade unions set about the task of involving the masses in transforming the affairs of society on a new basis, teaching people skills of economic management and government, teaching conscious and voluntary labor discipline. V. I. Lenin and the party helped the trade unions formulate principles, forms and methods of activity in Soviet conditions. Everything necessary to emancipate the immense productive energy contained within the worker masses and place it in the service of socialism was created in this country. The trade union organizations were very helpful in revealing this energy and properly channeling it. They became a genuine school of communism for the worker class and all working people.

The Communist Party and our country's trade unions work together, in a close alliance, on the unresolved root problems of societal development. This unity of goals and interests of the party and trade unions represents an enormous productive force, tested and proven by history. In this unity lies the source of the militance and organization of the Soviet trade unions, the foundation of their growth and increased prestige and authority in our society. The following figures indicate the scale of this growth. Before the revolution they had a total of as many as 1.5 million members. Today the trade unions have a total membership of 131,200,000 workers, kolkhoz farmers, and specialists. From a semilegal organization in conditions of a bourgeois-landowner system, with the victory of the revolution the trade unions were transformed into a most important institution within the system of a socialist democracy of all the people. The trade unions have earned enormous recognition in this country due to their constant attention toward the workingman and concern with satisfying his legitimate material and spiritual interests. Working people view the trade union as an organization close to them, their own organization. The trade unions are distinguished by an ability to lead the masses under the slogans of the Communist Party, a striving tirelessly to indoctrinate working people in a spirit of Communism. The party rightly considers the trade unions to be reliable supporters and views them as a powerful instrument for implementing the plans of building communism.

In relations with the trade unions, the CPSU firmly adheres to the principles which were formulated by V. I. Lenin. The party does not take the place of the trade unions and does not exercise close supervision in trivial matters; it does not mix its functions with the functions of trade unions as a mass nonparty organization of working people. The CPSU exercises first and foremost ideological-political guidance of the trade union organizations. Its course of policy determines the entire activities of the trade unions. Its positions on matters pertaining to comprehensive development of socialist democracy are



embodied in continuous deepening of trade union democracy. The party seeks to ensure that the trade unions more fully utilize their authorities and capabilities to protect the interests of the working peoples and to combat the bureaucratic distortions which are still sometimes encountered. The party has helped and continues to help the trade unions correctly determine tasks at each stage in the building of socialism and communism, and this fosters development of their initiative and activeness. The political and ideological guidance given by the party to the most mass organization of working people led it out into the broad arena of this country's political life and laid the road to comprehensive, fruitful activity in all domains of the Soviet society. The trade unions owe the Marxist-Leninist party for the fact that they are consistent and faithful spokesmen for the root interests of the masses.

The experience of history teaches us that in conditions of a socialist system trade unions can perform in full measure their role of school of governance and economic management, their role as a school of indoctrination of the new man and that of protecting the interests of working people only if they firmly follow a class policy line and resolutely reject the views of manifest and concealed enemies of the worker class and revisionists of every ilk. Any disruption of the ties between the trade unions and the Marxist-Leninist party, a lack or weakening of party guidance can deprive the trade unions of their socialist perspective and lead them to opportunistic degeneration, organizational disorder, and anarchistic actions. Surrender of class positions by the trade unions leads to undermining of the working people's faith in victory, in attaining their ultimate goals. Convincing confirmation of this is the situation which developed in the trade unions in Poland during the period of rampage by antisocialist forces.

The party's attentive, solicitous attitude toward the trade unions enables them to overcome errors of omission and deficiencies in their performance. Soviet trade unions perceived as one more manifestation of such solicitude those critical comments applying to them which were spoken from the rostrum of the 26th CPSU Congress. It was pointed out at the congress that our trade unions sometimes lack initiative in utilizing their extensive authorities. They are not always persistent in matters pertaining to fulfillment of the terms of collective agreements, safe and healthy working conditions, and still respond poorly to violations of labor laws, bureaucracy and red tape. This criticism is unquestionably enabling the trade unions to boost the operating efficiency of all their organizations.

A course of policy aimed at increasing the activeness of trade unions is a fundamental policy line of our party. "The party," stated Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev at the 17th USSR Trade Union Congress, "has supported and continues to support each public organization, and of course the trade unions also, performing their functions as well as possible, reflecting as fully as possible, to use the words of V. I. Lenin, that which is close to the masses, which is of concern to them, for by this the party and state are able more fully to express in their policies the will and interests of the people, of all the strata of our society."

Meaningful cooperation between party agencies and trade unions helps successfully resolve the most complex problems, whether they pertain to the economy and social matters, cultural organizational development or the spiritual development of Soviet citizens. The party has total confidence in the trade unions, greatly appreciates the activities they conduct, and respects their organizational independence.

V. I. Lenin defined with ingenious perspicaciousness the place and role of the trade unions in the conditions of a new societal system: "The trade unions are a school of communism." This formula, remaining a Leninist precept for the trade unions and a fundamental instruction for all their activities, has become continuously enriched and taken on new content as Soviet society has evolved. The school of communism, viewed historically, has gone through several stages. The first stage was when the trade unions were faced with the task of defending the achievements of the Great October Revolution. Its second stage was the struggle by the trade unions to build the foundations of communism. The third stage is the struggle to consolidate the developed socialist society. At the present stage, when a grandiose economic and social program is being carried out in this country pursuant to the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, the party wishes to see our trade unions even stronger and even more organized. To be a school of communism today means to concern oneself in an all-out way with improving the efficiency of societal production and boosting labor productivity on the foundation of scientific and technological advances. It is essential to teach the masses skills of genuinely scientific, more efficient management of the economy and widely to disseminate knowledge of economics. To be a school of communism at the contemporary stage means to enlist the majority of all working people to participation in the affairs of managing production and other domains of the affairs of society. To be a school of communism today means comprehensively to develop man's abilities, to create conditions for their fullest manifestation, and to affirm standards of Communist ethics and morality in the worker masses.

The role of the trade unions is growing considerably in the present historical period. The trade unions will be able to perform their tasks and functions only with the aid of the party, only under its guidance.

## II.

Enhancement of the role of trade unions in the developed socialist society is first and foremost a strengthening of their influence on improving the efficiency of societal production. The trade unions have every capability and opportunity to influence accomplishment of this pivotal task of our time. Ninety-nine out of every 100 workers in industry and construction, in transportation and in the services are members of trade unions; 97 out of every 100 workers in agricultural production are union members. Conscientious labor for the benefit of society as a whole is a primary, fundamental obligation of a trade union member. If all workers, unified by occupation, carry out their duties honestly and selfless, there can be no doubt about successful accomplishment both of economic and social tasks. Our party is counting on the trade unions ensuring the most active participation by working people in implementing economic plans.

Each trade union organization should constantly address the following questions: How can work be better organized in each concrete area? How can scientific and technological advances be utilized -- concretely, applied to a given workplace? What must be done to increase labor productivity, to achieve the strictest economy of material and labor resources at a given production facility and in a given branch, and how should it be accomplished?

The party states the task in this manner. The successful end result in the performance of each and every workforce, each and every branch and sector, throughout the economy, depends on the concrete answers by each trade union organization to these vital questions.

The trade unions have amassed considerable experience in solving problems of the socialist economy. This work gradually assumed specific organizational forms. Continuous production conferences have been operating under trade union supervision for several decades now. Factory-plant and local committees organize mass commissions on production. Workforces have established economic analysis offices. The attention of the general public toward the economy is being increasingly attracted by economy and thrift reviews and competitions held with the participation of trade unions. In light of the recent decree of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, All-Union Central Trade Union Council, and Komsomol Central Committee entitled "On Further Improvement of Economics Education and Indoctrination of Working People," primary attention is focused on problems of this country's economic development in the 1980's, intensification of the economy, more efficient utilization of production, scientific and technological potential, material and labor resources, improved planning, management and organization of production, and adoption of advanced know-how in economic management.

A most important task of the trade unions is to reach each and every working man, to make him clearly understand the requirements of party economic policy, to show him persuasively that precisely this policy is in conformity with his vital interests and that for this reason it is the duty of each and every individual to promote its full success with one's innovative quest. It is fine to be a shock-work performer and leading worker. A politically knowledgeable worker is a productive and political force, an organizer and indoctrinator within the collective, an implementer of party policy.

The trade unions join together not only rank-and-file production workers but also millions of engineers, technicians, and scientists. Thus the trade union organizations of enterprises and establishments embody the closest unity between workers and specialists, which fosters genuine scientific and technological advance in the nation's economy.

Millions of working people are becoming involved in the development of technical innovation. The All-Union Society of Inventors and Efficiency Innovators as well as scientific and technical societies today total more than 22 million members. Valuable experience is engendered in their activities: productive cooperation agreements are made between workforces of scientific establishments and enterprises, competition is held between engineers, technicians and scientific workers, and this helps speed up the renovation and retooling of plants

and associations, renewal of fixed productive assets, and bringing new facilities on-stream.

A course of policy aimed at utilizing primarily intensive factors of economic growth is opening up for the trade unions particularly favorable opportunities for development of socialist competition -- a powerful instrument for boosting the labor activeness of the masses. The humanism of the socialist system finds expression in this competition: it promotes fullest manifestation of man's productive resources in a decisive area of man's vital activities -- in the realm of labor, forms and shapes the individual and promotes the development of one's physical and intellectual resources. More than 109 million working people are presently taking part in competition. The party considers counter-plans and other similar initiatives to be of paramount importance in labor competition. The valuable initiative of the individual worker should be adopted consistently -- in the brigade, at the enterprise, and be disseminated within the branch of industry.

Another important feature -- internationalism -- is clearly manifested in socialist competition. Moscow's production leaders -- delegates to the 17th USSR Trade Union Congress -- appealed to this country's working people to achieve the very highest labor productivity at every work station and to make each and every workday in the 11th Five-Year Plan a day of shock-work labor. The Muscovites' initiative has been taken up in the Ukraine, in the republics of the Transcaucasus, the Baltic, Central Asia, Kazakhstan, and Belorussia. Thus a feeling of a single, unified family and pride in the achievements of the multinational Land of the Soviets are being instilled in millions of working people through competition. Competition is in progress everywhere under the slogan "Sixty Shock-Work Weeks in Honor of the 60th Anniversary of the USSR." The economic effect of the jubilee competition is great and its indoctrinational significance lasting. Friendship, cooperation and comradely mutual assistance among all our country's nationalities and ethnic groups is being strengthened in the course of this competition.

Today, when the links of enterprises based on co-production are expanding, trade unions are supporting in every possible way the adoption of mutual pledges by associated-enterprise workforces. Incorporated in these pledges are a common interest in and responsibility for successful accomplishment of plan-specified targets and for achieving a maximum end result. The spirit of collectivism is affirmed through the adoption of mutual pledges, and there is taking place further uniting of working people employed in the various branches and sectors of our economy.

In his addresses Comrade L. I. Brezhnev speaks with Bolshevik straightforwardness about unresolved problems, difficulties, and bottlenecks in our nation's economy. He stresses that many errors of omission in economic organizational development occur because the force of inertia and habits formed in that period when not so much the qualitative as the quantitative aspect of things was emphasized have not yet been fully overcome. This criticism also applies in full measure to the economic work of the trade unions. In many instances the trade unions are still unsatisfactorily solving problems of organization of labor and labor incentive, that is, those problems which in the final analysis determine a person's attitude toward labor. Organization of labor is



organization of production. Labor efficiency is secured at the workplace, in the primary work unit -- the brigade. Some places, however, the brigade form of organization of labor is still developing poorly. Trade union committees display sluggishness. And yet initiative and concrete suggestions are needed, which would make it possible to convert brigades over to new forms of labor in an orderly manner and to ensure conditions for successful fulfillment of their production targets. Practical experience convinces one that brigades achieve a substantial savings in work time, labor and material resources. Discipline is stronger, earnings are higher, and labor productivity also grows considerably more rapidly -- that principal reference point according to which we judge our progress toward our future -- communism. Productive, efficient labor always has been and continues to be the "principal subject" at the school of communism, which is being attended by the working people who are organized into trade unions. It is precisely in this domain that Soviet trade unions can and should show themselves to be skilled organizers and indoctrinators of the masses.

### III.

Examining the question of the place of trade unions in the system of political organization of the Soviet society, V. I. Lenin pointed out that they "stand, if I may use the expression, between the party and government authority" (Vol 42, page 203), and in the struggle for communism they "should be the closest and most indispensable assistant of the government authorities" (Vol 44, page 346). Today our trade unions are an integral element of the political system of the Soviet society. They are endowed with the right of legislative initiative; Soviet laws guarantee them the right of participation in governing the nation's affairs. The forms of this participation are varied. The trade unions perform such functions as administration of state social insurance, sanatorium and health resort affairs, as well as tourist travel; they have the power of governmental oversight in the area of industrial health and safety.

Unity of ideals and goals of the state and the trade unions, the growing social homogeneity of our society, as well as other important factors which determine the political system of developed socialism, are greatly expanding the domain of joint activities of the state and the trade unions. Bourgeois propaganda concocts a great many lies pertaining to this. Our enemies particularly harp on the claim that the Soviet trade unions have no democratic rights whatsoever, that they are entirely under the control of the government. Concealed behind these phony concoctions is the deliberate design to worsen relations between the trade unions and the soviets, a desire to drive a wedge between the various elements of the sociopolitical structure of the USSR. But these schemes are destined to fail. In our country, where power is in the hands of the workers, of the entire people, further broadening and deepening of democracy is inconceivable without all-out strengthening of the state. Any attempts to weaken the role of the state and its agencies in the affairs of the socialist society can only undermine democracy and can do detriment to the vitally important interests of the people, their genuine rights and freedoms. Occupying a worthy place in the political system of the socialist society, our country's trade unions work in the closest cooperation with the agencies of governmental authority and with the soviets. The Soviet State of all the people in turn is supported in its governing activities by the trade unions as

the most mass organization of working people. And we see that there is taking place neither usurpation of the functions of the trade unions, nor derogation of their role, nor infringement of their rights.

Strengthening of the Soviet State of all the people and broadening of the functions of the trade unions are interlinked and interdependent processes. Of great theoretical and practical significance in this regard are the points stated at the 12th Trade Union Congress by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev on the protective functions of trade union organizations. "The question may arise," he stated, "as to whether the trade unions' task of protecting the interests and rights of the workers has not been completed in a worker state which expresses the interests and will of the entire people. No, this task continues. Of course our trade unions protect the worker not from the state, not from the boss, as is the case in the capitalist countries. They protect him from violations of Soviet laws on the part of certain individuals and agencies." Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stressed that "the activities of the trade unions should create an environment in which there would be no possibility of violation of the rights of the workingman and where any manifestations of arrogance and indifference, of which some officials are still guilty, would become inconceivable."

This is the party's policy line regarding further development of socialist democracy and the role of the trade unions in it. The fact that the All-Union Central Trade Union Council takes direct and practical part in drawing up this country's long-range economic and social development plans, while the central committees of the trade unions perform this work within branches of production, the fact that factory-plant and local committees possess broad authorities in determining matters pertaining to development of their workforces -- all this constitutes genuine participation by the workers themselves in the governance of society. The range of administrative and management activities of the trade unions is enormous. More than 2 million trade union representatives have been elected to soviets at all levels -- local, republic, and the USSR Supreme Soviet. They serve on various soviet commissions. A system of meaningful co-operation between the trade unions and the soviets was formed and has been operating fruitfully for many years, a system which is developing in various areas. Factory-plant and local committee commissions on pension matters, for example, work in contact with state social security agencies. The large body of trade union activists takes part in monitoring the operations of transport, trade and public food service enterprises. Trade union housing and employee services commissions take part, together with commissions of soviet executive committees, in planning construction of housing, schools, and children's facilities. Relations between the trade unions and soviets in the area of cultural services for the general public are growing stronger day by day. This is socialist democracy in action.

#### IV.

The principal directions of trade union activities at the present stage, taken as a whole, promote vigorous resolution both of economic and social problems. In a socialist society these problems are inseparable from one another. Successes in economic development predetermine successful solving of social problems. And prompt, timely satisfaction of the people's needs and aspirations fosters labor productivity growth and increased efficiency of societal production.



All branches and sectors of the nation's economy are presently being converted over to intensive development, which makes it possible to achieve maximum results with minimum outlays. This imposes certain demands on trade union organizations and their activities. It is essential to examine more deeply new economic and social problems, to rely more extensively on scientific data, and continuously to improve the skill level of trade union officials and the competence of all trade union activists. In order to achieve continued growth in the influence of the trade unions on production affairs and indoctrination, trade union officials and all activists must adopt a more critical approach to assessment of their work performance and seek to ensure that each and every union member thoroughly understands the substance of party economic and social policy and works conscientiously, efficiently, and with quality.

The organizational structure of the trade unions enables them to maintain a focus both on production and social tasks. At the present time there are in this country 32 trade unions for the branches and sectors of the economy, 173 regional trade union councils, and 750,000 primary trade union organizations. They all enjoy legal rights and actual opportunities to examine and resolve production and social problems.

For many years the trade unions have been directly participating in determining matters of economic incentive for labor, worker material incentive, and structuring worker and employee wages. Trade unions seek to ensure that wages are truly earned, and that the manner of distribution of money and subsidies from public consumption funds maximally takes into consideration the contribution by each individual to development of societal production.

The trade unions influence the development and improvement of the state systems of public education, health care, trade and public food service, domestic and municipal services. They take part in planning construction and allocation of housing. In short, their influence encompasses all aspects of the life of the Soviet citizen and fosters realization of his social rights, which are formally stated in the USSR Constitution.

Improvement of working conditions, job health and safety represent a vast area of social functions of the trade unions. Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's statement about transitioning "from safety regulations to safe equipment" constitutes a program point for trade unions in this area. This task is being accomplished by means of the gradual elimination of heavy and manual labor, mechanization and automation of production processes, and implementation of measures to improve health and hygiene. An exceptionally important role in this is played by the workforce-authored social development plans. As we know, they were at first formed on the basis of voluntary initiative by enterprises. At the proposal of the All-Union Central Trade Union Council, the entire aggregate of social measures which formerly were included in social development plans now comes within the state plans of enterprises, organizations, associations, branches and sectors of the economy. Of course this does not eliminate the trade unions' obligation to display initiative in these matters. On the contrary, they should act even more vigorously, more fully utilizing acquired experience, developing social planning in all workforces.

With the expanding powers of the trade unions, they also have increased obligations to their members. Of paramount importance is concern for specific individuals, for fuller satisfaction of their material and cultural needs. These are fundamentally new tasks, which were not and could not be encountered by trade unions prior to the socialist revolution or even in the first years of Soviet rule. In conditions of developed socialism there appeared genuine opportunities to formulate this task in a broad and significant manner. The program for boosting living standards which was adopted at the 26th CPSU Congress opens up the way for further broadening of the material base of the trade unions, and consequently for fuller satisfaction of the cultural-services needs of working people.

In the USSR participants in the ranks of the unified trade union movement include not only employees of state enterprises and establishments, but kolkhoz farmers as well. This has become possible due to consistent implementation of CPSU agrarian policy. At the May (1982) CPSU Central Committee Plenum, those changes which have taken place in recent years in the life and labor of the Soviet peasantry were persuasively demonstrated. The material and technological foundation of agricultural production has been qualitatively renewed. Highly efficient interfarm and agroindustrial enterprises and associations are developing. Approximately 2 million specialists with higher education and secondary specialized training are presently employed in our rural areas. All this makes it possible to expand the base of the trade unions in our country. Bringing not only workers but also kolkhoz farmers into their ranks, the trade unions constitute a fusion of all the productive forces of society.

The May CPSU Central Committee Plenum ratified the USSR Food Program for the Period up to 1990. Implementation of this program is the task of all working people. The recently-held Second Plenum of the All-Union Central Trade Union Council, giving its approval of the Food Program, stressed the need to concentrate all the resources of the trade unions on its implementation. Socialist competition for ahead-of-schedule deliveries of equipment and fertilizer to the farms is under way in the urban workforces. Agricultural workers set for themselves the goal of comprehensively improving the efficiency of crop farming and animal husbandry. The structure of rural trade unions is presently brought into conformity with the structure of management of the branches of the agroindustrial complex. Councils of chairmen of trade union committees are being established in the rayons; councils on agroindustrial complex affairs are being established in oblasts, krays and autonomous republics in trade union organizations involved with food production, and commissions on agroindustrial complex affairs are being established in the union republics and All-Union Central Trade Union Council.

Accomplishing common tasks and participating in a unified trade union movement, the worker class and the kolkhoz peasantry are experiencing a school of Communist labor, constructed on principles of close mutual assistance and comradely cooperation. At the contemporary stage the trade unions constitute a force fostering the development of a classless structure of society which, as was specified at the 26th CPSU Congress, will take place primarily within the historical framework of mature socialism.

Those qualitative changes which are taking place in our trade union movement possess profound significance. In an ideological aspect these changes signify that the philosophical outlook of the worker class, which has always comprised the backbone of the trade union movement, defines the ideological position of all classes and social groups within the Soviet society. At the political level this signifies that the foundation of Soviet rule and of our state of all the people has become even stronger and firmer. From the social aspect this attests to the fact that the process of effacement of the differences between city and village, between persons engaged in intellectual and physical labor is continuing.

The principal tasks of the trade unions, proceeding from their social function as a school of administration, a school of economic management, a school of communism include campaigning vigorously for reorganization of societal relations on a Communist basis, for a steady rise in the people's living standards and for improvement of the conditions of labor.

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NATIONAL

OBKOM SECRETARY ON DEVELOPMENT OF IDEOLOGICAL WORKERS

Moscow POLITICHESKOYE SAMOOBRAZOVANIYE in Russian No 8, Aug 82 pp 145-147

[Interview with A. I. Kostyunin, secretary of the Tula CPSU obkom, by G. Dement'yev; "Military Inspection of Propaganda Forces"; date and place not specified]

[Text] /In accordance with the decree of the CPSU CC, entitled "On Further Improving Party Study in the Light of the Decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress," Propagandist Day will be held for the second time in our country on the eve of the new academic year. In connection with this, a POLITICHESKOYE SAMOOBRAZOVANIYE correspondent met with the secretary of the Tula CPSU obkom and requested him to answer a number of questions./ *[in italics]*

[Question] Aleksey Ivanovich, wherein do you see the importance of Propagandist Day? What was demonstrated by the experience of holding it in the Tula Oblast party organization last year?

[Answer] We have had a tradition for a long time now of summing up at propagandist rallies the results of the work which has been accomplished and of specifying the concrete tasks for the new academic year within the system of Marxist-Leninist education. It must be admitted, however, that such rallies have been held only episodically, and far from all propagandists have participated in them. A new impulse and scope have been given to this work by the decree of the party Central Committee, entitled "On Further Improving Party Study in the Light of the 26th CPSU Congress." As is known, it approved the practice of holding Propagandist Day and recommended that it be marked everywhere on the last Saturday of September.

On the eve of the 1981/82 academic year in Tula Propagandist Day was held for the first time in all the cities and rayons of the oblast. This was preceded by very careful preparation. More than 10,000 leaders of political classes took part in Propagandist Day; this is dozens of times greater than the number of participants in the rallies of previous years. Meetings were held between propagandists and the secretaries and members of the CPSU obkom bureau members, city and rayon party committees, as well as formal meetings at which there was discussion of the problems of implementing the decree of the CPSU CC on party study; a substantial, business-like talk was engaged in about the ways to raise its ideological-theoretical level, provide better results, and strengthen the ties with life. The



comrades listened to reports and lectures, exchanged experiences, and received recommendations regarding the conduct of classes in the new academic year, as well as appropriate methodological developments. Let me note that the very fact of the propagandists sharing these things on the eve of the academic year is of great importance.

Also held on this day were celebrations in honor of the best, most experienced masters of propagandizing revolutionary theory and the party policy. They were awarded Party Committee Certificates of Honor, and they were presented with letters of commendation, sets of works by the classics of Marxism-Leninism, the works of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, socio-political literature and belles lettres, as well as free tourist passes for trips to the sites of the life and activity of V. I. Lenin, the Soviet people's revolutionary, military, and labor glory, and to the museums of the capital. A diverse cultural program was presented for the comrades.

Propagandist Day took on the form of a brilliant professional festival among us. Of course, for most of the school and seminar leaders propagandizing the theory and the policy of the CPSU has become essentially a second profession. This is difficult but noble work, requiring a considerable amount of effort and time. And to elevate its authority, to evaluate it on its merits, to express to people words of profound gratitude--this is our primary duty.

From another point of view, Propagandist Day has become a military inspection of the personnel on the ideological front, their creative forces, readiness to begin the academic year of party organizations, offices of political education, party libraries, and the capacities of propagandists to solve the problems assigned to them by the party. It can be stated without exaggeration that Propagandist Day is one of the effective forms of improving party study.

[Question] What new is being introduced into the contents of Propagandist Day during the present academic year?

[Answer] First of all, I would like to emphasize the fact that on Propagandist Day we will be summing up the results of a great deal of work concerned with carrying out the CPSU CC decree "On Further Improving Party Study in the Light of the Decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress." During the period which has elapsed our party organizations and the propagandists have achieved definite, positive results. There has been a noticeable enrichment of the contents and a rise in the ideological-theoretical level of the political classes and a strengthening of their ties with life. The method of political self-education, active forms of study, and the socio-political practice of the students. This oblast's propagandists have accomplished quite a bit with regard to forming in their students a profound ideological conviction and a communistic, active viewpoint on life. Let me cite a few figures in connection with this. With the aid of the political class leaders, the students worked out and implemented 373,500 individual socialist pledges, counterplans, and personal accounts of economies. More than 15,000 efficiency-improving suggestions were submitted with an economizing effect of 10.4 million rubles. The students prepared and carried out more than 100,000 speeches, reports, and interviews in labor groups, on agitational platforms, over the local radio, or in large-circulation and wall-type newspapers.

The following propagandists, for example, have worked with initiative and creatively: the chief designer of the Tyazhpromarmatura, S. Gorshkov, the chief animal specialist of the Kolkhoz imeni 22nd Party Congress, M. Nikolayeva, lecturer at the Department of Marxist-Leninist Philosophy of the Tula Polytechnical Institute, G. Vronskiy, the chief economist of the Mordvesskiy Sovkhoz, Venevskiy Rayon, S. Borzdyy, the director of the Butikovo Breeding Sovkhoz, Zaokskiy Rayon, N. Klyushnikov, the chief engineer of the Kireyevskiy Mine, S. Padalko, as well as dozens and hundreds of their colleagues.

At the same time we distinctly acknowledge that, in carrying out the directives of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev with regard to questions of ideological work and the CC decree on party study, only the first few steps have been taken.

In what way can the propagandist influence the formation of a Marxist-Leninist world view in the members of a labor group? How to achieve the growth of political culture and awareness among the students, to inculcate in them an active, vital outlook? Where to seek out the reserves for the growth of labor productivity for an increase in efficiency and quality of work? These and many other questions will be the subjects of opinions being exchanged among the political class leaders at the upcoming Propagandist Day. Judging by the merits of that which has already been achieved, its organizers and participants will devote their principal attention to unresolved problems and plans, as well as to raising the responsibility of the propagandists for the matter which has been entrusted to them.

A particular impress on the contents of Propagandist Day is being made by the decisions of the May (1982) Plenum of the CPSU CC, the report thereat by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev. The school and seminar leaders, along with their students, ought to determine their own place in the propaganda and implementation of the USSR's Food Program.

As is known, in December of the current year our people will mark a famous date--the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Party propagandists are confronted with the task of playing an important role in mobilizing labor groups for a worthy celebration of this glorious jubilee.

There is yet another characteristic of Propagandist Day. Thereat for the first time awards will be made for many years of fruitful work with regard to propagandizing Marxist-Leninist theory and the policy of the CPSU. The Leninist Certificate of Honor and the propagandist's desk-top medal will be presented to the best of the best leaders of Marxist-Leninist study and its organizers. This will undoubtedly impart a still greater air of festivity to the propagandist holiday.

[Question] Aleksey Ivanovich, how are the CPSU obkom and the oblast's party organizations preparing for the upcoming Propagandist Day?

[Answer] As far back as May of this year the Department of Propaganda and Agitation of the Tula party obkom worked out a plan of preparation for Propagandist Day. In the CPSU oblast, city, and rayon committees, at industrial, construction, and transport enterprises, on kolkhozes and sovkhozes meetings are being held between political class leaders and party, Soviet, trade-union, and Komsomol workers, party veterans, leaders from the fields of science and culture, as well as Tula writers.



In the oblast center a formal meeting will be conducted within the Drama Theater imeni M. Gor'kiy. More than 800 propagandists will be taking part in it. They will hear a report entitled "Results of the 1981/82 Academic Year and the Tasks of the Oblast's Party Organizations and Propagandists with regard to Improving the Quality and the Results of Party Study." An exchange of experiences will take place. The comrades will be presented with flowers, memento-type gifts, sets of books, booklets prepared ahead of time which will tell about the activities of the oblast's best propagandists. In the lobby photo and book exhibits are planned for presentation, and there will be socio-political literature for sale. In conclusion, the participants in the meeting will watch a show, based on Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's book "Vozrozhdeniye" [Rebirth].

The propagandists of the Order of Lenin Novaya Zhizn' Kolkhoz imeni I. M. Semenov will be photographed by the unfurled Challenge Red Banner of the CPSU CC, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU, and the Komsomol CC, which has been awarded to this farm because of the results of the first year of the 11th Five-Year Plan. The photographs with commemorative inscriptions will be presented to them during the holiday.

Just before Propagandist Day a group of political class leaders from the Novomoskovskiy Rayon will visit the V. I. Lenin Museum in the capital. The holiday will be marked in an interesting fashion in Uzlovskiy Rayon. The holiday will be marked in an interesting way in Uzlovskiy Rayon. Here an evening will be arranged on the order of the popular television program entitled "With All My Soul," to which propagandists are invited together with the members of their families.

The oblast newspapers KOMMUNAR and MOLODOY KOMMUNAR have prepared topical pages devoted to Propagandist Day. Television will show a "round table" discussion by a group of the best school and seminar leaders.

In sum, the oblast party organization will strive to do everything to bring it about that Propagandist Day takes place on a high level, interestingly, substantively, and that it inspires the propagandists to perform successful work during the new academic year.

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## NATIONAL

### PUBLISHING INDUSTRY CHAIRMAN LAMENTS BOOK SHORTAGE

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Aug 82 p 3

[Interview with B. I. Stukalin, chairman of USSR Goskomizdat, by V. Fedotov, PRAVDA correspondent: "In Order to Enlighten Your Mind"; date and place not specified]

[Text] /PRAVDA's mail contains quite a few letters whose authors touch upon the problems of publishing activities in our country. The interview printed below contains answers to a number of questions which bother book-lovers./  
[in italics]

As before, the most important concern of publishers remains the propagandizing of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress--noted B. I. Stukalin. In order to more fully satisfy the interest in the materials of this congress both in our country and abroad, the publishing houses have already issued more than 40 million copies of books and pamphlets with the text of the report by the General Secretary of the CPSU CC, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, as well as other documents of this forum of Soviet Communists in 49 languages of the peoples of the USSR and 19 foreign languages.

The popular series entitled "Steps of the 11th," consisting of seven pamphlets has been offered to the wide readership by Politizdat. Twelve works comprising the series entitled "The USSR's Economy: 1981--1985" has been prepared by the Ekonomika Publishing House, while the set entitled "The Decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress Implemented" has been prepared by the Znaniye Publishing House. Quite a few substantial books and pamphlets, part of which are combined in topical series, are being published in republican publishing houses. Great interest has been evoked among readers by the following All-Russian series: "Siberia's Wide Horizons," "Energy of the Century," "The BAM Is the Address of Great Exploits," and "Our Kray Is Non-Chernozem." The Moskovskiy Rabochiy Publishing House, along with the Ukrainian, Belorussian, and Latvian publishers have undertaken the publication of literature devoted to propagandizing the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, as well as the experience of the party committees and labor groups with regard to implementing them.

New editions are being published which explain the importance of the May (1982) Plenum of the CC, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's report at the Plenum, the Food Program of the USSR. The first works of the series entitled "Problems of Agro-Industrial Integration" have begun to appear.

**[Question]** The readers A. Sobolev (Voronezh), N. Pilipchuk (Gomel'), A. Karagezyan (Yerevan), I. Duginov (Tashkent), and others have asked how the central and republican publishing houses are preparing for the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR.

**[Answer]** Dozens of books, pamphlets, attractive sketch-books, and posters published recently narrate the triumph of the Leninist nationality policy and the unbreakable friendship among the Soviet peoples. Thus, Politizdat prepared the topical collection "V. I. Lenin and the CPSU on the Soviet Multi-National State," a two-volume edition entitled "Lenin at the Helm of the Land of the Soviets," and the collections "The Soviet Motherland," and "Handclasp of the Five-Year Plans." The characteristics of the development of national relations in the USSR, the formation of a new historical community of people--the Soviet people have been accorded the principal attention in a number of new items released by the following publishing houses: Mysl', Progress, Nauka, and Yuridicheskaya literatura. I would also like to note the great work being done by the publishers of Russia, the Ukraine, Belorussia, and the other republics with regard to preparing in a timely fashion for the jubilee sets of the literature of the peoples of the USSR.

**[Question]** Many letters sent to the editors touch upon the problems of the book shortage. For example, the reader L. Golikov from Vologda makes the following observation: 15 years ago he freely purchased in the city's stores individual volumes of the collected works of Charles Dickens. But now, when he requested the two-volume set of "The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club," they looked at him as if he were some kind of eccentric desiring to catch a golden fish in an ordinary pond with an ordinary pole. L. Golikov assumes that readers have not changed in the last few years. But to have a home library has become a matter of prestige; chasing after any new books has become modish. As a result, a book shortage has come about. However, the writer makes the reservation that perhaps he is not correct, although he is unable to find any other satisfactory explanations. What is your opinion?

**[Answer]** According to the calculations of the sociologists, personal book collections now contain as many as 40 billion volumes--an amount several times greater than in the state and public libraries. This is a colossal abundance! Nevertheless, the editors of newspapers and journals, publishing houses, and bookstores receive many letters which justifiably note that buyer demand for many types of literature, especially for fiction and children's literature, certain reference works, encyclopedias, and other editions is far from being fully satisfied.

Why has such a situation come about? During the last 15--20 years significant changes have occurred in our society. And it is difficult to agree with the assertion that today's readers are the same as they were in the mid-1960's. Over this period there has been a considerable increase in the general culture of Soviet people; their spiritual demands have grown noticeably. It is appropriate to recall that on the eve of the Great Patriotic War only 15 percent of young fellows and girls were graduating from the ten-year schools, in the mid-1950's this figure was about 40 percent, at the end of the 1960's it was already approximately 70 percent, and today practically all young fellows and girls enter upon independent life with a secondary education. Among the population employed in the national economy, in 1970 65 percent had a higher and secondary education, whereas at the

beginning of 1979 this figure had reached 80 percent. The need for various information, for various types of knowledge is now enormous among Soviet people. Nor should we forget that now four out of five families living in cities have their own individual, well-laid-out apartments. And, of course, an inalienable possession of each apartment is a home library.

This is a legitimate and gratifying phenomenon of our life. But Comrade Golikov is also correct: unfortunately, books are far from always obtained in order to satisfy spiritual needs. To have as many of them as possible in the home has become for many persons indeed modish and prestigious. There are also those kinds of "book-lovers" who regard a book solely as an item in short supply. As a result of all this, a considerable portion of literature passes by the active reader.

But what are the ways to overcome the book shortage? Of course, in order to more fully satisfy readers' needs, we must, above all, increase the circulation of editions, i. e., the number of copies printed. Constant concern is being manifested about this. Last year, as compared with 1965, book circulation was increased by almost 619 million copies. In 1981, in comparison with 1980, their publication increased by more than 5.6 percent. According to the national-economic plan, in 1985 the publication of literature is due to increase by 16.2 percent, as compared with 1980.

It is no less important to correctly utilize public and personal book holdings, to form rational readers' requirements, to inculcate a taste for working in libraries. While condemning thoughtless collecting, it is, at the same time, necessary to propagandize the good, noble cases of genuine book-lovers. Particular support and respect are deserved for those of them who actively participate in historical-literary or regional-studies research and who acquaint a wide audience with the results of their painstaking research. Quite a few owners of libraries hand over valuable materials from their own collections to state libraries, archives, and museums; they open up their home libraries for friends, comrades at work, fellow townsmen, and neighbors. Useful work with respect to propagandizing literature, inculcating an interest in reading is conducted by many organizations of the All-Union Society of Book-Lovers, which numbers millions of members in its ranks.

*[Question]* The readers I. Knyazhko from Tul'skaya Oblast, G. Akhmedova (Ordzhonikidze), V. Kalynya (Riga), N. Shevchenko (Khar'kov), and others, in thinking about what a home library should be, have attempted to describe its, so to speak, ideal type. In their opinion, it does not have to contain thousands of volumes....

*[Answer]* Many outstanding figures of science and culture at various times have expressed the thought that a member of the intelligentsia need have a modest-sized but a carefully selected personal library. Of course, it is suitable to have at home books which one has to use from time to time in order to satisfy one's own professional interests and personal penchants. But, of course, it is superfluous to have in his collection dozens, or even sometimes hundreds of books to which the owner never turns. "Enlarge your own library," wrote V. G. Belinskiy, "but not just to have many books, but rather in order to enlighten your mind, to educate your heart, so that, by means of the creative works of the great geniuses you may elevate your soul." Wise advice!



*/Question/* The authors of a number of letters consider that we are publishing many unnecessary books. They say that useless editions are gathering dust on the store shelves, while those for which there is a heightened demand are not being published enough. The following persons, in particular, have written about this: V. Mel'nikov (Krasnoyarsk), I. Tverdokhlebov (Chernovtsy), S. Ivanov (Moscow), A. Murtazayev (Frunze), and N. Voronina (Gor'kiy).

*/Answer/* Similar letters are received at our offices, and they are often published in the press. Are these reproaches justified? In publishing practice there are indeed cases where a portion of the circulation fails to find its readers. This is the result of errors either in planning the amount of the circulation or the poor quality of the edition itself. USSR Goskomizdat consistently works to avert such facts. They are becoming less and less frequent, and their influence on the book shortage is insignificant.

The principal determining trend in our work is to constantly increase the publication of literature for the mass demand. During the 10th Five-Year Plan, with a growth of paper resources of 12.8 percent, the circulations of fiction and children's literature increased by more than 30 percent, as compared to the 9th Five-Year Plan. By the end of the last five-year plan the proportion of these types of literature within the total amount of books being published consisted of 44 percent, as contrasted with 35 percent in 1975. Such an increase became possible due to improvement in topical planning, more precise coordination of publishing houses' plans, curtailment of the publication of editions which are of little topical value, and redistribution of material resources.

In accordance with the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, the USSR Goskomizdat has worked out a comprehensive program for publishing children's literature and fiction during the 11th Five-Year Plan. Within its framework over the years 1982--1985 publication of 1,700 book titles enjoying a particularly wide demand will have circulations in the millions. As a result, children's literature and fiction by the end of the five-year plan will reach a proportion of no less than 50 percent within the total amount of editions.

*/Question/* And, consequently, we can reply to our readers I. Tulovaya (Kursk), B. Epshteyn (Odessa), D. Rasulov (Baku), N. Semenova (Leningrad), and many others that matters are moving toward the gradual elimination of the book shortage....

*/Answer/* We are striving to do everything in order to speed up the solution to this problem. However, the demand for certain types of literature still outstrips the possibility of satisfying it. And this is primarily because of insufficient growth rates in the production of paper. A shortage of printing capacities is also making itself felt.

Under these conditions the rational and conservative use of paper, as well as the careful and efficient operation of every printing enterprise, assume particularly great importance. During the last few years this sector has put into operation new norms for the expenditure of materials and more economical standards for the design of books and journals; this allows us to conserve thousands of tons of paper. But in a number of instances it is still being expended uneconomically. Those readers are completely correct who, in their letters to PRAVDA, have



proposed that the portion of paper being allocated for intra-departmental needs be curtailed. Justifiable rebukes have been caused by the immoderate, wasteful expenditure of the "bread of culture" on excessively cumbersome and ineffective instructions and directions, luxurious invitation tickets and programs of various types of seminars, conferences, and the like.

People often ask: are not many books and pamphlets written off as waste paper, i. e., pulped? For the country as a whole this amounts to approximately 0.7 percent of the total turnover of the book-trade organizations, that is, less than the norm provided for writing off obsolete literature. But, taking into consideration the scope of our book publishing, this is quite a significant loss, with which we cannot be reconciled. Therefore, we are constantly concerned about improving the topical planning and that the circulation figures being set reflect reader demand as precisely as possible. The book-trade organizations have everywhere organized the reception of preliminary orders for various new items of literature. Good results have come about from the practice, organized in the last few years, of having subscriptions to narrowly specialized editions. By the end of the five-year plan such a method is intended for use in disseminating as many as 1,500 editions of scientific and socio-political literature. Within the Union and republican goskomizdats, as well as in krays and oblasts, circulation commissions are operating which examine the grounds for justifying the intended circulation of a future book. Measures have been worked out determining a stricter mutual responsibility of publishers and book distributors for the incomplete sales of literature.

Question And lastly, Boris Ivanovich. The readers A. Rostkovskaya (Moscow), Z. Zhuravlev (Lipetskaya Oblast), S. Balabanov (Minsk), and others are interested in what kinds of changes are taking place within the structure of our book publishing and in the printing industry.

Answer Recently a consolidation of eight central publishing houses was carried out, on the basis of which four new ones were created. And the largest publishing house turning out literature in foreign languages--Progress--has been divided into two independent houses--Progress and Raduga. The first of these will specialize in publishing socio-political literature, while the second will be issuing belles lettres. Changes in the network and structure of the republican publishing houses are being made periodically. This is dictated by the necessity for taking into account more fully and efficiently the changing demands of Soviet and foreign readers.

A few words about innovations in printing. Perhaps the most important of these is the increasingly more widespread use of progressive methods of printing and the most up-to-date technology. In comparison with 1975, there has been a tripling of the volume of printing done on automatic, photographic units. Assembly-printing equipment has been actively introduced in the central publishing houses. The proportion of the off-set method of printing has reached 34 percent of the total production capacities of our enterprises. Widespread use has been attained by automated binding lines, at which last year more than 280 million books were manufactured. All this allows us to increase labor productivity and the quality of printing output.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the numerous book-lovers who, in their letters to publishing houses, newspapers, and journals, have shared their impressions about what they have read and what they think about the role of books in the spiritual life of our society, and who have expressed valuable suggestions and advice. It can be stated with complete correctness that the fate of books is determined by the readers. Day-to-day communication with them assists publishers, printers, and distributors of literature to improve their own work.

2384

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## NATIONAL

### JOURNALISTS URGED TO CHECK FACTS, PREVENT RUMOR-MONGERING

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 25 Aug 82 p 1

[Article by A. Sabov, journalist: "Facts Versus Rumors"]

[Text] I have known V.A. Sukharnikov, second secretary of the Melenkovskiy party raykom, for many years. I remember him as an ardent, initiative-filled worker in the Komsomol obkom; and in his party work he is distinguished by his militancy, seriousness and real concern about the successes and failures of his own rayon.

I recently met Vladimir Alekseyevich in his office and discussed an extremely vital matter: should the newspapers publish facts that are what is called "negative"? For example: a personal matter concerning the chief of a timber industry personnel department was considered in a strict and principled manner at a recent meeting of the CPSU raykom bureau. Having ascertained that he had fraudulently placed a relative in a state apartment out of turn, the bureau members expelled him from the party and removed him from his post.

The case is undoubtedly instructive, and I was convinced that it was necessary to carry the story in the newspaper.

"But why?" the secretary asked me seriously. "It serves no useful purpose to use the crime of one leader to cast a shadow on others. There will be gossip and rumors."

I disagreed. In my opinion gossip starts when objective and clear information is replaced by various kinds of rumors "about" given cases, facts, situations.

Take another example. At one time rumors were rife in the oblast center about the discovery of major intrigues at the Vladimir Meat Combine. One "eyewitness" even asserted that the combine director had a foreign bank account. The wave of idle talk was especially high during the trial. It seemed to me that the oblast newspaper PRIZYV would publish all in good time, clarify the essence of the affair and show the insignificance of these "heroes of the day"; everything would be sorted out. But this did not happen. The people of Vladimir would have remained in ignorance were it not for the fact that soon afterwards an article entitled "Grisha in a Mercedes" appeared in PRAVDA. After this the rumors and conjectures about thefts of meat died away.

In our country the authority of the printed word is very great among Soviet people. Sometimes a ten-line note in a newspaper is sufficient to put the lie to rumors and idle talk once and for all.

I remember the following situation. There was a fire in the village of Yuzhnyy during last year's hot summer. A whole street burned down. But thanks to the fine organization of the rescue services it was possible to save all the people from the fire and prevent casualties, and to save two-thirds of the village. Why was it not possible for the newspaper to tell about this heroic battle with the fire? about the families who had lost all their possessions being immediately surrounded by the attention and concern of the rayon and village authorities and the villagers? about the special decision taken by the oblispolkom to construct a new street costing \$600,000?

Nothing was told about this hot July day. And the rumors spread just as they did in Vladimir. Some said that the entire village had been burned, others added that many children had died, yet others asserted that the fire had spread to Ryazan Oblast. There was real fear in their eyes.

About 3 months later a journalist visited the village. He photographed the new street and the first newcomers and wrote about their gratitude and offered this material to the newspaper PRIZYV. He offered it on the eve of Constitution Day, and the constitution contains the following words: "In the USSR a developed socialist society has been built... It is a society whose law of life is everyone's concern for the good of each and the concern of each for the good of all." The photo reportage could have been an excellent illustration of these words: the street rising phoenixlike from the ashes, the feelings of mutual help among Soviet people, the advantages of our way of life. "It's not worth stirring over this story of the fire," the chief of the newspaper department told the journalist. "We might be raising the issue incorrectly," Who? Why? What is this "incorrectly"? It seems to me that more often than not we harm the cause itself when we fear to take the responsibility for publishing factual information and try to avoid thorny subjects.

And what happens as a result? Even if we remain silent about some undesirable event taking place in the countryside, the city, the oblast, the event usually becomes known anyway. But how it will be distorted, what "oral stories" will come out of it, what kind of "moral" will be drawn from it--this we can only guess. For the speed at which rumors spread is often inversely proportional to their veracity.

I shall cite another example in favor of facts versus rumors. Last fall in Vladimir an unhealthy hullabaloo was started about potato procurement: the rumor spread that "there will be no potatoes during the winter." Worried inhabitants of the city tried to acquire them to stock up, and because of this trade operations were disrupted. The oblast newspaper immediately reacted to this and carried a special banner headline on its pages: "How Is Potato Procurement for the Population Going?" Every week it published reports and commentaries, from which the people of Vladimir learned how much had been procured, how reserves were being stored, what kinds of potatoes were available to the public. The hullabaloo died down and the stores sold vegetables and potatoes right through the winter.

I think it is essential to raise this matter because I am convinced that it is the duty of the party journalist to act against rumors no matter how "reliable" they seem, by presenting the facts, publishing them correctly in the press, and helping readers to consider them correctly. And then people will thank the journalist.

## NATIONAL

### GREATER ATTENTION TO WORLD WAR II EVENTS IN SOVIET NORTH URGED

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 29 Aug 82 p 3

[Unattributed article: "To the Mind and to the Heart. An Interesting Conversation About the Newspaper in Arkhangel'sk"]

[Excerpt] Deliberations with the reader. This time the editorial office held them in Arkhangel'sk where party workers, social sciences teachers, and local writers, newspaper people and radio and television journalists had gathered. The SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA editorial office was represented by writer Yuriy Bondarev, A. Larionov, editor for the paper's cultural, literary and art section, and Ye. Goloshumov, our own correspondent.

Those speaking dealt with a whole range of questions that we consider useful to bring them to the broadest range of readers so that discussion of them can help in defining more precisely our search next year.

Thus, a very important idea was put forward by G.V. Perfilov, chief of the CPSU Arkhangel'sk gorkom construction and municipal economy section. Analyzing the economic theme in the newspaper, he drew attention to the fact that the editorial office still does not systematically elucidate questions of the care of the national wealth. As is known, this problem is extraordinarily acute. We are not just talking about direct losses and pilferage at construction sites and in transportation and at enterprises, but of the careless use of materials, resources and energy... In his opinion, this problem should be thoroughly examined in the newspaper and a more emotional appeal made to the reader. "We have somehow forgotten how to value the national wealth and we are obligated to teach people to care for it. This should be sounded in the newspaper with skill and acumen," Perfilov said.

N.A. Zhuravlev, chief of the oblast writers' organization, supported the editorial office in its efforts to reflect more fully the subject of the rural intelligentsia. However, from his viewpoint, journalists still write little about the manifestation of human qualities in the sphere of labor activity. For culture is not only for the home and for friends; it should serve a person at his work where conflict situations frequently occur because of poor cultural relations.

V.Z. Fridman, chief editor of the oblast television studio, considers that the editorial office frequently carries successful material on military-patriotic



education, but writes little about the heroic events in the North during the war years. "The war was also waged in the Arctic and just as fiercely and heroically, and the feats of the sailors of the "Sibiryakov" and "Dezhnev" who fought against the fascists in the Arctic Ocean 40 years ago are convincing proof of this," he said.

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## NATIONAL

### CONTINUING ROLE FOR UNION REPUBLICS SEEN

Riga KOMMUNIST SOVETSKOY LATVII in Russian No 6, Jun 82 pp 26-33

[Article by V. Miller, doctor of juridical sciences: "The Unity of All-Union and National Statehood in the USSR"]

[Excerpts] The peoples of our country, exercising the right of self-determination bestowed upon them by Soviet power, have opted for the most expedient forms of national statehood. The union republic--a sovereign Soviet state that joins with other republics to form the Soviet Union--has become one such form. The union republic possesses broad powers. Outside the spheres listed in Article 73 of the Constitution of the USSR and areas of all-union jurisdiction, it exercises authority on its territory. As is known, the size of the population and territory of union republics varies. Republics also differ in their economic and cultural development. However this does not confer any advantage on one over another and does not infringe the interests of any republic.

The autonomous republic--a Soviet socialist national state that belongs to a union republic and that exercises state power along autonomous lines--has become another form of national statehood.

Autonomous oblast and autonomous okrugs that offer nations and nationalities of these autonomies optimal conditions for their political, economic and cultural development have also become forms of state formations in the USSR.

The 1977 Constitution of the USSR preserved all 53 national state formations (15 union republics, 20 autonomous republics, 8 autonomous oblasts and 10 autonomous okrugs) that had formed by that time, reinforced their legal status and provided new state-legal guarantees of their further development.

Thus in the stage of mature socialism, all the necessary conditions are at hand for the state-legal development of each nation and nationality, which in turn promotes their intensive rapprochement and the strengthening of the sociopolitical unity of the Soviet people within the framework of the union state.

The Soviet federation and national statehood have played a distinguished role in resolving the national question in the USSR and in strengthening the friendship and fraternal cooperation of Soviet peoples. But this does not mean that they have already completely fulfilled their tasks and exhausted all their potential. And even under the conditions of developed socialist society, the Soviet federation and Soviet national statehood in all their forms perform and will continue to perform their functions with regard to the further sociopolitical, economic and cultural development of Soviet nations and nationalities and their further rapprochement.

"Experience has shown," L. I. Brezhnev emphasized in a report on the draft Constitution of the USSR at the 24 May 1977 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, "that the basic features of the USSR federal system have completely proven themselves. Hence there is no need to make any fundamental changes in the forms of Soviet socialist federation." Consequently, the most important task today is to secure the further strengthening of the Soviet federation, to develop the existing and practically tested forms of national statehood in the USSR, and hence to attain the further strengthening of the unity of all-union and national statehood in developed socialist society.

The public discussion of the draft of the USSR Constitution produced the proposal to incorporate the concept of the unified Soviet nation in the Constitution; to abolish union and autonomous republics or to restrict the sovereignty of union republics to a considerable degree, to strip them of the right to secede from the USSR, the right to engage in foreign relations; the proposal to abolish the Council of Nationalities and to establish a unicameral Supreme Soviet. In his report on the draft Constitution and the results of its public discussion at the extraordinary Seventh Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, L. I. Brezhnev observed: "...The erroneousness of such proposals is obvious...Owing to the consistent Leninist national policy, we have built socialism and for the first time in history have successfully resolved the national question. The friendship of Soviet peoples is inviolable. They are steadily drawing closer together in the process of communist construction and are enriching the spiritual life of one another. But we would be embarking on a dangerous path if we began artificially forcing this objective process of rapprochement of nations. V. I. Lenin repeatedly warned against this and we do not depart from his behests."

It was specifically such an exclusively correct position that was legislated into the USSR Constitution and the constitutions of the union and autonomous republics. It is realized in party policy directed both toward the strengthening of the Soviet union state and toward the further development of the national statehood of peoples.

The further improvement of the forms and structure of national statehood and the strengthening of its unity with all-union statehood will naturally occur in various directions and in various channels. As demonstrated by the already amassed experience of the Soviet federal state, the most expedient distribution of rights and competence between the Soviet Union and the union republics is one such direction.

As we know, in recent years our country has carried out significant measures directed toward the expansion of the rights and competence of republics in the management of the national economy, in legislation, etc. As events show, the union republics are coping with the new, more complex functions that they discharge in the exercise of their broader rights. The experience of the Latvian SSR attests to this point.

Consequently there is every reason for speaking of the growth of the political, economic and cultural maturity of republics; of the significant enhancement of their role in the examination and resolution of problems of all-union significance; and of the strengthening of their sovereignty.

At the same time, it is important to emphasize that the expansion of the rights of the union republics is not aimed at isolating and disuniting the republics but is aimed at the development of their initiative, the fruitful management of the national economy and the participation of still broader masses of people in the government of the state. Ultimately the rights of the union republics are expanded in the interest of their still closer cooperation and hence the further rapprochement of nations.

At the same time, we cannot fail to note that the expansion of the rights of the union republics is not a one-sided act. It is also integrally connected with the expansion of the rights of the Union, with the redistribution of areas of competence between the Union and union republics.

In actuality, the broadening of the powers of the union republics has led not to their isolation, to the denigration of the role of the Union but rather to the strengthening of the interrelationship, the strengthening of the unity of union republics, and to the further bolstering of the authority and guiding role of the USSR.

The Constitution of the USSR and the republic constitutions have unequivocally recorded all these new elements in national-state construction in the present stage. They have not only preserved but have also more completely and precisely defined the powers of the Union and the powers of the union republics.

The Constitution of the USSR expanded the powers of union organs, gave them the additional right to establish the general principles of organization and activity of republic and local organs of power and government, to secure the unity of legislative regulation everywhere in the country; and confirmed the Union's responsibility for pursuing a uniform socioeconomic policy and for managing the nation's economy. The conditions of mature socialism raise the responsibility of union organs for integrated state government everywhere in the country, for the conversion of the nation's economy to the predominantly intensive avenue of development.

The integrated economic and social development of the USSR is a most important function of union organs. They direct the most important branches of the national economy: the oil, gas, chemical, shipbuilding, aviation, automotive, and defense industry. They are responsible for foreign trade and economic relations with foreign countries, for maritime, air and rail transport, etc.

At the same time, all-union and republic organs exercise a broad range of powers jointly. The development and strengthening of Soviet national statehood in Latvia would have been unthinkable not only without all-round economic mutual aid but also without the joint resolution of questions associated with the improvement of democracy, republic legislation, the structure and activity of the state apparatus, and the strengthening of socialist legality. Thus, union organs exercise general leadership, articulate principles of legislation, determine fundamental principles of development of the national economy and culture, while the union republic exercise direct leadership.

The practice of national-state construction in our country convincingly shows that under the conditions of Soviet federation, centralism is organically combined with democratism, with the broad independence of republics. It is an evidence that excessive centralization like excessive decentralization is alien to the socialist federation.

According to Article 77 of the USSR Constitution, each republic takes part in decision-making in matters that come within the jurisdiction of the Union, the USSR Supreme Soviet, its Presidium, the USSR government, and other all-union bodies.

Union republics actively influence all-union decisions through their representatives in these bodies. Thus the Council of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet elects 32 deputies from each union republics. In the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, a union republic is represented by one Deputy Chairman of the Presidium. Chairmen of councils of ministers of union republics are ex officio members of the USSR Council of Ministers (Article 129); chairmen of supreme courts of union republics are ex officio members of the USSR Supreme Court (Article 153).

Provision is also made for other forms of participation of union republics in decision-making on matters within the jurisdiction of the USSR.

This ensures the actual participation of the union republics in resolution of the affairs of the Union and the coordination of the activity of the corresponding organs of the USSR and union republics.

The combination of the interests of the Union and republics is also guaranteed by the truly democratic principles of the legislative process, and in particular by the fact that drafts of Laws of the USSR are studied not only by permanent commissions of chambers of the Supreme Soviet but if necessary are sent to union republics for their response before being submitted for the consideration of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Between 1978 and 1980 alone, the republics carefully examined draft laws on elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet, on citizenship, on the protection of the atmosphere and the animal world, on people's control, on the procuracy, and on state arbitration. On the other hand, union republics take the recommendations of all-union bodies into account when they draft their own laws. The result is agreement between all-union and republic acts already in the stage of their elaboration.



It should also be noted that union republics, as indicated by the practice of recent years, pass laws and make decisions on a broad range of questions. New republic constitutions, laws on elections to the supreme soviets of union republics, on councils of ministers, on local Soviets, on the protection and enjoyment of historical and cultural monuments, regulations of the highest organs of authority, mineral codes, timber codes--this is by no means the complete list of important legislative acts elaborated in the republics following the adoption of the USSR Constitution of 1977.

In a word, events offer convincing evidence that the USSR is a dynamic and effective form of state amalgamation of Soviet nations and nationalities.

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## REGIONAL

### INTERMARRIAGE RATE HIGHEST IN KAZAKHSTAN, LATVIA, UKRAINE

Alma-Ata AGITATOR KAZAKHSTANA in Russian No 15, Aug 82 pp 24-25

[Article: "An International Marriage Is More Stable"]

[Text] Marriages between people of different nationalities are not a rare phenomenon today. In comparison with other countries, their percentage is significantly higher in the Soviet Union. What can explain this?

Maskhud Dzhunusov, a doctor of philosophical sciences and a professor in the Institute of Sociological Research of the USSR Academy of Sciences says: "The Soviet Union is one of the most multinational powers in the world. The 1979 all-union census of the population counted more than 120 nationalities, large and small. In number, they varied from 137 million (Russians) to 500-900 individuals (Aleuts, Nganasans, Yukagirs, and others). At the present time, every seventh marriage in the USSR is concluded between people of different nationalities."

Sociologists point out the constant growth in the number of mixed marriages in the USSR as a whole and in each of the 15 union republics. For example, the number of all Soviet families grew by approximately 18 percent from the end of the Fifties to the beginning of the Seventies, but the number of ethnically mixed families increased by more than half.

The highest percentage of international marriages is registered in Latvia, Kazakhstan, and in the Ukraine (one-fourth of all marriages) and the lowest in Armenia. The latter, however, is caused not by prejudices but by the high ethnic uniformity of the population. Armenians form more than nine-tenths of it and, naturally, the opportunities for an eligible Armenian bachelor or girl to meet people of another nationality are limited.

Heterogeneous families are also widespread in the republics of Central Asia. This is explained by the emancipation of women in the Soviet East.

The dynamically expanding migration processes are also helping to bring the nations together. The percentage of international marriages is especially great in the areas of new construction projects where youth come from the different corners of the country. I was recently in the city of Naberezhnyye Chelny where representatives of many republics were participating in the construction of a very large truck plant.

Every other marriage here is an international one. It is approximately the same story in the regions where the Baykal-Amur Mainline is being built in Siberia and other large construction projects.

Of course, a marriage is a serious matter in every situation, and the process of forming a mixed family is not simple. At the same time, as sociological research shows, mixed marriages are usually more stable than non-mixed ones. This is explained by the fact that international marriages are concluded, as a rule, with more thought and all the "pros" and "cons" are weighed more strictly.

What nationality will the children of mixed marriage belong to? This problem is being solved differently. The registration of the child's national affiliation by legal means occurs when he reaches 16, when the young lad or girl receives a passport. Each one of them determines his nationality on his own -- that of his father or that of his mother. As a rule, the ethnic environment, in which the family lives, exerts an influence on this selection. For example, teenagers from Russian-Lithuanian families, who live in Lithuania, normally regard themselves as Lithuanians; and those, who live beyond the boundaries of this republic, look upon themselves as Russians....

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## REGIONAL

### CENTRAL ASIAN CULTURAL TIES TO MIDDLE EAST STRESSED

Ashkhabad KOMSOMOLETS TURKMENISTANA in Russian 19 Aug 82 p 3

[Article by B. Kazakov: "Nasrettdin's Adventure"]

[Text] Hundreds of anecdotes exist about the incomparable Nasrettdin-- a great wise man, a cunning man, and a cheerful defender of the poor. They know him throughout Central Asia, in Azerbaijan and in the Near East. Nasrettdin appears as the hero of an artistic work in two stories by Leonid Solov'yev -- "The Instigator of Tranquility" and "Charmed Prince", and also in the story "The Cheerful Wise Man" by Boris Privalov.

If one compares the works of these two writers, then I think that it would be possible to say that Solov'yev provides a more vivid, clearer and Central Asian view of Nasrettdin and the coloring is transmitted more picturesquely. This is natural since Solov'yev lived for many years in Turkestan and was a participant in the struggle against the Basmach bandits. However, obvious credit must be given to B. Privalov for the fact that he demonstrated with great persuasiveness why many of the anecdotes about Nasrettdin are so contradictory in the depiction of their hero: In some, he is a great wise man and a defender of the oppressed, but in others a skinflint, a glutton, a cowardly jackal, and even simply a gawker.

The geographical area of Nasrettdin's adventures according to the anecdotes was primarily Central Asia and the entire Near East. Khiva, Bukhara, Damascus, Istanbul, Teheran, Tbilisi, Bakhchisaray, Trapezund, and even Cairo are referred to. However, we will only address that which is shown in the above mentioned artistic works.

L. Solov'yev does not pose any geographical riddles in his first story. The place of the action is Bukhara-- this is clearly and distinctly mentioned. There is nothing to solve here. Solov'yev's second book narrates the travels of Nasrettdin in search of a lake which had been taken away from the peasants by the heartless Agabek. Here again, I think that everything is clear -- everything is named directly. Nasrettdin settled in Khodzhent with his Gyl'dzhan and children, although he would have liked to go to Kokand. It was there that he met an old dervish who told him about the lake which Agabek had seized, and who suggested that he take this lake away from him. However, the member of the Brotherhood of the Silent and Understanding wasted the time, which had been allotted to him for the conversation, and was not able to indicate directly to Nasrettdin where this lake was located.

Nasretdin had to begin his search independently. Having cunningly stirred his wife to pity, he sent her to Bukhara with all the children to visit her father, the old man Niyaz. After this, he made his way to Kokand. A one-eyed thief, through whose fault they had to suffer for a stolen kumgan, joined him. I think that the place where this occurred can be determined with sufficient accuracy from the one-eyed thief's phrase: "Kanibadamskiye boots are especially deplorable for the edges...". Incidentally, Nasretdin's age is also mentioned here: "Beyond the 40-year line". They proceeded to Kokand and there Khodzha Nasretdin was plunged into an abyss of dangerous adventures. There, in the bazaar he asked everyone in turn about the mountain lake. However, everything was in vain-- he did not manage to find anything out. They set out on a random search, without having available any information. However, near the tomb of the Muslim Saint Turakhon, an old man -- it seemed -- was beautifully knowledgeable about everything and placed in Nasretdin's hands maps about which he had not dreamed. Nasretdin now knew not only the location of the lake but also everything about Agabek. The wind of punishment and retribution did not blow on Agabek from the mountains, which he feared, but from the valley. Nasretdin went to him from there. However, Solov'yev does not give here any direct indication of the lake's location. He only says that the path of Nasretdin and the one-eyed thief lay to the west from Kokand -- to the mountains. Where is the lake in actuality? We will try to find this out.

Nasretdin and the one-eyed thief went from the Ferganskaya Valley to the west toward the mountains. They travelled along packed-down paths and then crossed an icy stream. Looking at a map, we can say that this stream could be no other than the Syr-Darya. They began their ascent into the mountains in the morning along a narrow path. They travelled along a precipice for two hours, they crossed a stream after this, then they descended along a steep slope, and by mid-day were already on a bullock cart road which led to the village of Chorak. Only one turn -- and they saw the lake.

Where is this lake? All this information about the distance to Kokand, the direction from it to the west, the mountain pass, the icy stream-- directly points to a lake on the territory of the present-day Tajik SSR. It is Lake Ak-Syken or Oksukon. There is confirmation of this reasoning in the foreword to "Charmed Prince": "The Khodzhenttsy will tell the traveller that "Khodzha Nasretdin's lake is in the mountains along the road to Asht". When we look at this area on a map, we can say that all our conclusions are correct: there is no other lake-- except Ak-Syken (Oksukon)-- there.

The area of Nasretdin's adventures in B. Privalov's story "The Cheerful Wise Man" is different, but it is also Central Asia. Khodzha Nasretdin, now an old man, arrived in a small city. Rumors about his arrival had already circulated among the inhabitants. A skinny and gloomy judge had left the city and a stout judge, who was happy and filled with hopes, was coming to replace him. They met along the road and talked about Nasretdin. From Nasretdin's subsequent adventures, we see that the foes sent him first to a bey-- the favorite of the emir, and then to the emir himself in the palace. Three, geographical points. We will try to establish where they are located. We will begin first of all with the residence of the emir himself. There is no doubt that it is noble Bukhara itself since that was the residence of the emirs.



In the sixth story, we see that the caravan with the emir's wisemen had not had time to leave the city when trade visitors from a neighboring country appeared at the gates. Three points along the direct line to Bukhara deserve attention: Chardzhou, Mary and Tedzhen. First of all, the city of the emir's favorite. Tedzhen could not be it. It is either Chardzhou or Mary. The latter began to be called this comparatively recently. Before, it appeared as Merv. It is difficult to establish when Nasretudin lived, i.e. to what time the events, which are being described, are related. However, it is evident that it was before the Tatar-Mongol conquests because not a single word about this is mentioned-- and this was hardly possible because many cities were destroyed and made desolate. The cities of Turkmenistan grew especially rapidly during the 11th-12th centuries. The city of Merv especially grew and flourished. There were several large bazaars in it where every possible luxury item, handicrafts, bread, vegetables, and other food products were sold. The production of silk, cloth and high quality ceramics was the basis for Merv's economy; there was even a library at the time in Merv. However, the city was destroyed by the Mongols in 1221. Even if it was earlier than the 11th century, Merv was an important city at that time -- you see, it did not grow and develop in one moment. Chardzhou was never such a large center. The bey was the emir's favorite and that is why there is no doubt that he ruled in the best city. And so, there is every justification for supposing that the bey's city was Merv. However, is there not some other additional information in the text of the story? It seems that there is, but first it is necessary to ask the question: Where is the city of Nasretudin's friends from which he had to go against his will to his excellency the Bey?

It would seem that all these insignificant features in the text of B. Privalov's story "The Cheerful Wise Man" would permit us to establish the location of Khodzha Nasretudin's adventures: Tedzhen, Merv (or Mary) and the residence of the emir-- noble Bukhara.

8802

CSO: 1830/474

## REGIONAL

### HARMFUL INFLUENCE OF MUSLIM 'HOLY PLACES' DECRIED

Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 1 Sep 82 p 4

[Article by K. Akmuradov, sector chief in the Philosophy and Law Department of the Turkmen SSR Academy of Sciences and candidate of philosophical sciences: "It Will Be Overgrown With Camel Thorns..."]

[Text] The article by M. Annanepesova, a corresponding member of the Turkmen SSR Academy of Sciences, and S. Saparov entitled "The True Face of the Ishan", which was published in the newspapers SOVET TURKMENISTANY and TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA on January 1982, compels one to think a great deal and to say a great deal.

To begin with, the natural question arises -- how did it turn out that Kurbanmurad-"Ishan" suddenly became "sacred"? What exploits and what good deeds did he perform? What did he do for his people that his memory is revered?

The article talks about this person correctly and in very great detail. Yes, Kurbanmurad-"Ishan" was not "famous" at all for his exploits and good deeds. He was known to his contemporaries for his unparalleled and insatiable love of power and for his desire to become the khan of Akhal. His unprincipled and perfidious intrigues evoked bloody strife between the Turkmen villages and led to the spilling of brotherly blood. In a word, he was one of the most reactionary and evil personalities in 19th-century history.

As is known, the peoples of Central Asia, including the Turkmen people, were included during the second half of the 19th century in the large bourgeois land-owning state, tsarist Russia, by different means -- from voluntary entry to conquest. Tsarism carried out the annexation of Central Asia based on its aggressive, military, expansionist purposes.

However, despite the complete reactionary nature of tsarism's colonization policy union with Russia played a progressive role under the historical conditions which had taken shape where the danger of complete enslavement and systematic destruction and plundering by the feudal despots, who surrounded Turkmenia and behind whose backs stood imperialist England, threatened the Turkmen people. Slavery was destroyed and the devastating feudal wars and mutual raids were stopped.

The development of the area's production forces was accelerated somewhat. Russian progressive democratic culture began to penetrate into Turkmenia. However, the main thing is that the workers of Turkmenistan joined in the joint revolutionary struggle of the peoples of Russia, the great ideas of Marxism-Leninism, and the fraternal friendship of peoples in the struggle for liberation from social, colonial and national oppression and for the building of a new life.

The true intellectuals in the Turkmenia of that time well understood the positive nature of the union with Russia and the coming together of the Turkmen people with the Great Russian people and the powerful Russian state.

After the Turkmen people in the Caspian Sea area voluntarily joined Russia in 1874, the majority of the inhabitants in Akhal also asked to become Russian citizens. In particular, Nurberdy-Khan, the most famous political figure in Akhal, followed this policy.

Kurbanmurad-"Ishan" and others conducted themselves differently. Using the ignorance and illiteracy of the local population, they sowed inter-tribal dissension, provoked open clashes between local tribes and families which often ended in bloodshed, and -- remaining to the side -- cleverly used these clashes for their own enrichment and the strengthening of the positions of their families.

All this graphically shows what a villainous provocateur Kurbanmurad-"Ishan" was -- similar to the priest Gapon on "Bloody Sunday" in 1905 in Russia. If the roads of the people had really been interesting to him, there would have been no senseless destruction of innocent people.

The pseudo-patriotism of Kurbanmurad-"Ishan", his egoism, and his passion for profits were once again clearly demonstrated when he quickly found a common language with the tsarist generals and reaped the fruits from exploiting the simple people.

How after this, 100 years later, is it possible to declare the tomb of Kurbanmurad-"Ishan" a place worthy of honor and "sacred"? Why are we tolerating this impudent swindle, falsification and open outrage against the historical past of the Turkmen people?

Unfortunately, there are quite a few similar falsifications around the so-called "holy places" in the republic. They have been repeatedly written about in our press.

For example, how much deceit and ignorance has been woven around the imaginary "grave of Mukhammed ibn Khanaf'"! This famous Muslim figure, the son of Caliph Ali, lived in Arabia, died there and was buried in Medina in 700 A.D. He never visited Turkmenia and Central Asia in general. Nevertheless, the cult ministers declared that a mosque located north of Bayran-Ali was the burial site of Mukhammed ibn Khanaf' (in Turkmen pronunciation, it is Khanapey) and received plentiful offerings there from numerous pilgrims for many years.

However, one day when examining this mosque, M. Ye. Masson, an academician from the Turkmen SSR Academy of Sciences, read an old inscription which had been left by the builders of the mosque. It was clear from it that this was not at all the

grave of Mukhammed ibn Khanaf' but the mausoleum of Mukhammed ibn Zeyd, a prominent Shiite leader. The disgraced mullahs (Sunnites), who cursed the Shiites as heretics, were astounded when they found out that they had been continuously praying over the grave of a Shiite because of their ignorance.

Nevertheless, the greedy self-interested and self-styled Muslim confessors invented for profit a "grave" for Mukhammed Khanaf' in Geok-Tepinskiy Rayon. Naive pilgrims, who are hoping to obtain the intercession of the "great saint" whose remains in actuality have rested peacefully in Arabia for more than 1,280 years, are now going there.

Many so-called "holy places" in Turkmenistan are the burial sites of various conquerors, feudal lords, and spiritual persons who shed Turkmen blood and who ruthlessly oppressed and exploited the popular masses.

The askhaby, the fellow-fighters of one of the conquerors of the Arabs-- Mukhamed Ali, are buried on the territory of ancient Merv. Not knowing who they are, the local inhabitants call them "Burey-deler". Indeed, those, who spread Islam by force of arms are buried here. They were noted for their ruthlessness toward the local population. The local people looked on their burial sites with hatred at one time, but the self-styled servants of Islam declared these places "holy" a hundred years later. Many other places were also erected and declared "holy" in this manner, for example, the tombs of "Mukhamed ibn Zeyd" in Bayram-Aliyskiy Rayon, of "Khodzha Abdylla Mubarek" or "Abdylla Ansari" near the city of Mary, and of "Gammar baba" on the territory of Iolotanskiy Rayon.

The following curious facts also have a place.

Until recently, a "sanctuary" under the name of "Umurli goch", which attracted believers and superstitious people-- especially women, existed on the territory of the city of Ashkhabad. No one knew what and who lay in the "sanctuary". In accordance with a plan of the construction organization a gas pipeline had to pass through here. It was necessary to move the remains of the "saint" to another place. The unsealing was performed in the presence of the public and believers. However, nothing besides dirt was found in this so-called "holy" place. Thus it turned out -- there was no holy relic there where the gullible people came to worship.

When speaking about the different historical and architectural monuments, mausoleums, tombs, springs, and cemeteries which have been converted into so-called "holy places" in a number of spots and to which pilgrimages are being made, it is also necessary to talk about the role of the illegal activity of the self-styled representatives of the clergy.

Life shows that the usual money-grubbers, who are pursuing a single goal-- profit at the expense of the believers -- are self-styled mullahs, keepers and others. Their activity is a gross violation of Soviet laws on religious cults, and it is directed toward the enkindling of religious prejudices. It not only is the result of an ignorance of existing laws, but it also often becomes a conscious violation of them.



For mercenary motives and in order to receive unearned income by means of deceiving people and to profit at the expense of naive and gullible pilgrims, the pretenders spread different types of cock-and-bull stories about the omnipotence of the imaginary "saints" among the population. When the people rush to the "holy place", they simply fleece them in various ways: they collect the money, products, animals, etc., which have been left by the visitors, cleverly making a profit from the religious prejudices of the too trusting people.

They try to use the democracy and humanism of Soviet laws, which do not permit victimization because of religious convictions, to cover their charlatany and extortion. However, you see, the majority of these people have very little in common with religion in actuality. Let us remember that the Spiritual Administration of Central Asian Muslims long ago condemned their activity as sinful from the point of view of Islam. No, it is totally not religion; parasitism and money-grubbing lay at the basis of the activity of the people who are presenting themselves as "guardians of the holy places".

Genuine swindlers, drug addicts, alcoholics and people who are following a dissolute way of life are also encountered among them. For example, Pal'van Batyrov from Tedzhenskiy Rayon, who appeared among the gullible people under the pseudonym Pal'van "Palchy" (i.e., "the Fortune Teller"); the imposter Atadzhan Batyrov from the "holy place" of Odzharly in Murgabskiy Rayon; "Bilgich" (i.e., "expert") A. Khallyyev and the myudzheviri A. Babakuliyev from the "holy place" of Ymam Mukhammed Khanapiy; the imposter Dzhumagel'di Soyunov, the myudzheviri of the "holy place" of Ibragim edem in Tashauz Oblast, who was convicted of an attempted rape; and the drug addict and alcoholic Nurmurat Akhmedov, the myudzheviri of the "holy place" of Myalik baba in Kaakhkinskiy Rayon, were like this.

Based on the initiative of the self-styled ministers of the cult of Islam, different types of unwarranted structures and expensive tombs are appearing on the "holy places," and enormous areas are being enclosed by stone and iron fences for the burial of the future deceased of their family and tribe. These fences and buildings have appeared for example, in the cemeteries of "Khodzha Abdylla" and "Molla Tore akhun" on the territory of Bekil'-Bazarskiy Rayon and in the "Kurbanmurad ishan" Cemetery in Geok-Tepinskiy Rayon.

Thus, the so-called "holy places" continue to be the breeding grounds for religious prejudices, superstitions and disease.

The people of our republic are continuously unmasking the harmful and anti-social activity of the self-styled mullahs, ishans, sheiks, myudzheviri, keepers, etc. However, the eradication of this evil requires greater persistence and consistency. Effective ideological and organizational work -- the easily understood and widespread publicizing of natural science, medical and legal knowledge; an improvement in the work with the workers' complaints and statements; the unmasking of the illegal activity and immoral conduct of those "guardians of holy relics" who have been caught in this; the institution of proceedings against them; and patient individual work with pilgrims, are needed.

The major role in all this complicated activity belongs, of course, to the broad public under the leadership of party organizations. It is necessary to enlist scientists, writers, journalists, and medical workers in this. It is only with such an arrangement of the task -- about which the authors of the article "The True Face of the Ishan" also talked -- that the paths, which led to the "holy places", will be overgrown with camel thorns.

8802

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## REGIONAL

### LETTERS REVIEWED IN TURKMEN SUPREME COURT

Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 4 Sep 82 p 2

[Article by N. Galaktionova, chief of the complaint department of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Court: "A Letter Has Arrived in the Establishment"]

[Text] It is generally known how attentively and sensitively V. I. Lenin treated each proposal and each letter. He saw in the mail, which came to him and also to the party and soviet bodies and to the editorial boards of newspapers and magazines, a rich source of information on the attitudes of the masses; and he himself was happy to talk with messengers from the people and to discover the workers' thoughts and expectations through them.

In the CPSU Central Committee report to the 26th Party Congress, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev emphasized the enormous importance of workers' letters and suggestions as an important channel for the party's vital bond with the masses. Later, in the decree entitled "On Measures To Further Improve the Work with the Worker's Letters and Proposals in Light of the Decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress", the CPSU Central Committee required party and soviet bodies, ministries, departments, and economic organizations to devote maximum attention to the work with the letters and once again emphasized that every director is obliged to regard a sensitive and attentive attitude toward the requests of citizens as his duty to the people and to the party.

The Turkmen SSR Supreme Court thinks that the examination of citizen complaints and letters is one of the main sectors of its activity. Basically, complaints about sentences, judgments, decisions, and decrees of people's and oblast courts, which are entering into legal force, arrive here. All of them are carefully read and summarized. The complaint department studies the reasons for the arrival of repeated applications. The results of the work are discussed during a meeting of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Court Presidium. Measures are adopted to improve the work with the complaints and the control over their passage and to decrease review periods.

In order to check on the arguments of the applicants and the legality and validity of the court sentences which are being passed, the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet demands and obtains criminal and civil cases in the necessary instances. This helps in giving a reasoned reply to the applicants, lessening repeated complaints, and eliminating mistakes which are being committed by the courts.

Many of the complaints arrive directly in the higher and central establishments, bypassing the local bodies and officials who are competent to make a decision on them. Thus, several complaints about the judgments and sentences of the people's courts are sent immediately to the Turkmen SSR Supreme Court although the chairman of the oblast court has the right to protest them. Some citizens do not know about this, and others reason as follows: "I will write 'the higher-ups', and they will look into it there. Outwardly, all this is harmless; however, if one thinks about it, the source of procrastination and the unproductive expenditure of the labor of many workers is here.

Indeed, how many more complaints about wage punishments, changes in the wording of dismissals and the remission of disciplinary punishments are sent to court bodies although these matters (besides the restoration to work when there is a dismissal on the administration's initiative) should first be examined by the commissions for labor disputes and the factory, plant and local trade union committees?!

This is what happened with the complaint of V. V. Lebedev, a doctor druggist in the Maryyskiy Narcotics Health Center, who was dismissed from work supposedly in accordance with his own wish. Thinking that the dismissal was unjustified, the petitioner sent an application to be restored to work directly to the people's court, although his conflict had not been examined before hand by the commission for labor disputes and the local committee.

Unfortunately, lawyers must frequently examine complaints which really cannot be in any way examined without the intervention of court bodies. The dismissal of workers and employees from work without the agreement of the factory, plant or local committee is a very gross violation of the law. And these instances occur as the letters testify.

A. Redzhepov, the chief of the Road and Bridge Operations Administration in the Turkmen SSR Ministry of Municipal Services, dismissed construction expert A. I. Dyatchin from work without turning to the local committee to obtain their concurrence. Dyatchin was restored to work by a decision of the people's court of Ashkhabad's Proletarskiy Rayon with the payment to him of 372.70 rubles for the enforced absenteeism. Based on Article 226 of the Turkmen SSR Labor Law Code, this sum had been exacted from A. Redzhepov who had signed an illegal order. A private judgment was also passed on the Turkmen SSR Ministry of Municipal Services.

Housing disputes occupy an important place among the complaints which arrive in the republic's Supreme Court. When reviewing them, the court of highest instance is strictly guided by the Principles of Housing Legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics which became effective on 1 January 1982. The Principles of Housing Legislation is a complete codification act which includes not only legal norms which have been checked in practice but also a number of new and fundamentally important propositions. The question concerning eviction from departmental housing in connection with a dismissal in accordance with one's own wishes, for violating labor discipline or for committing a crime is now examined in a new way. The republic's Supreme Court has in mind that in these cases, eviction is permitted in accordance with the new law only when other housing is assigned. However, they do not always remember this, evidently, in places.

M. A. Tashliyeva worked in a construction organization where she also received an apartment. She was dismissed from work at her own request, and soon an eviction was brought against her in the people's court. However, the Chardzhouskiy People's Court correctly rejected the action since the construction and assembly department had not assigned her other housing.

When reviewing complaints connected with criminal cases, the Turkmen SSR Supreme Court considers the public danger which encroachments on socialist property represent. They cause considerable material damage to the national economy and that is why every effort of the court bodies must be directed toward defending socialist property.

N. V. Biryukov, V. F. Plesovskikh, and I. K. Bugrayev, having colluded together beforehand, penetrated onto the territory of Ashkhabadskiy Rayon's raymezhkolkhozstroy, where they broke the door of an office and the cashier's office, dragged out a safe with money from the premises, and concealed it in the vicinity of the Karakumskiy Canal. Later, they opened the safe and divided the money in it -- 11,620 rubles -- between themselves. When determining the punishment measures, the Ashkhabadskiy Oblast Court took into consideration the public danger from the crime which had been committed and the personality of the criminals, and it sentenced N. V. Biryukov to 13 years in prison, V. F. Plesovskikh-- to 12, and I. K. Bugrayev-- to 11 years in prison with the confiscation of their property and the recovery of the stolen amount for the benefit of the Ashkhabadskiy raymezhkolkhozstroy.

In turning with complaints to the Turkmen SSR Supreme Court, Biryukov, Plesovskikh and Bugrayev asked that the punishment measure, which had been imposed on them, be lowered. However, their requests remained unsatisfied.

When examining the complaints of people who have been convicted of profiteering, the Turkmen SSR Supreme Court also considers the special importance of the struggle against this type of crime. U. Suleymanova regularly speculated in industrial goods. She purchased items in short supply in the city of Baku and sent parcels with men's shirts, wool dresses and carpet runners to her acquaintances. Uzriyat Suleymanova was sentenced by the verdict of the Geok-Tepinskiy Rayon People's Court to 10 years of imprisonment since she had been convicted before of similar crimes but had not drawn conclusions for herself and continued to engage in profiteering. The Turkmen SSR Supreme Court refused to satisfy her complaint.

The reception of citizens by the workers of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Court is another one of our main duties. They treat visitors sensitively and attentively and explain Soviet laws to them patiently. The correct organization and skilful conducting of citizen receptions determines to a great deal the content and volume of court work. The explanation to citizens of Soviet laws and their rights and duties helps to eliminate conflicts and to prevent the emergence of many civil and criminal cases. The reception of citizens and the discussions with them are two of the ways to conduct preventive work.

The workers of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Court understand that the timely and correct resolution of appeals and supervision complaints eliminates violations of socialist laws and is a very important guarantee of justice. Maximum sensitiveness and maximum attention and concern for people--the party demands this from all our workers.



## REGIONAL

### NEW WORK ON COPING WITH CENTRAL ASIAN LABOR SURPLUS REVIEWED

Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA in Russian 24 Aug 82 p 3

[Review by M. Nurmakhmadov and M. Matevosyan, candidates of economic sciences, of book "Nauchno-tekhnicheskiy progress i kadry" [Scientific and Technical Progress and the Labor Force] by S.I. Islamov, "Irfon" publishing house, 1981: "Population Problems in Tajikistan"]

[Text] Implementation of the 26th CPSU Congress decisions on the need to pursue an effective demographic policy and create conditions for a more rational utilization of labor resources depends largely on a correct understanding of basic theoretical questions in population development. This latter is particularly important under the conditions of the Central Asian republics, including Tajikistan, where the indicators for population differ sharply from the all-union indicators.

Central Asia is a labor-surplus region. The birth rate and natural growth of labor resources are high. Tajikistan is the only republic in the Soviet Union where the trend is toward growth in the proportion of the rural population and a decrease in the urban population (in 1980 the figures were 34 percent against 37 percent in 1970). Other features of population development are also present in the Tajikistan SSR.

A book by S.I. Islamov entitled "Scientific and Technical Progress and the Labor Force" published last year by the "Irfon" publishing house investigates these little-studied questions and determines ways to improve the utilization of labor resources under the conditions of the present scientific and technical revolution.

On the basis of a large amount of factual material the book's author traces the processes of change in the sociodemographic and territorial-sector structure of employment and investigates development trends in the professional and qualificational makeup of the labor force under the influence of scientific and technical progress. The book contains a whole series of conclusions and recommendations aimed at substantially improving the processes involved in the formation and distribution of available labor resources in the republic. There is definite interest in the author's approach to solving the problems of labor forces surpluses or shortages at individual enterprises in the Central Asian republics by means of the balanced development of working places and labor resources.

Taking into account the low mobility of the rural population in our republic, particularly of women, in order to improve the utilization of their labor in the sphere of social production the author proposes an expansion of construction in small cities and rural localities by the branches of the major enterprises. Here he relies on the positive experience gained in our republic in the creation of branches of such major industrial enterprises as the Dushanbe production cotton association, the Dushanbe sewing association imeni 50-letiya SSSR and others. It is worth noting that as a rule, all branches fulfill and overfulfill the plans for output and labor productivity growth.

The monograph concludes that where greater concern is shown for the development of children's preschool establishment and the network of the nonproduction sphere is expanded, the level of participation by women in social production is higher.

Under the conditions of the Tajik SSR, the author notes, the most important problem is increasing the proportion of employment among the indigenous nationality and its labor activity in the sectors of the republic's national economy. The proportion of the indigenous nationality employed in the national economy of the Tajik SSR is now considerably lower than the proportion of the local nationality in the total numbers of the republic's population.

It is pointed out in the book that there is a need to develop a system of measures aimed at increasing the proportion of the indigenous nationality employed in the republic's national economy.

A special place in the book under review is assigned to a study of the effect of developing agrarian-industrial integration on raising the level of employment and its qualitative improvement. Further development of agrarian-industrial integration, the need for which was again stressed in the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) Plenum decisions and the speech delivered at that plenum by comrade L.I. Brezhnev will, in the author's opinion, promote the formation of workers of the industrial-agrarian type as a new social stratum in a society that synthesizes within itself the best aspects of industrial and agricultural workers.

An important place is also given to an analysis of the effect of scientific and technical progress on the content and character of labor and change in the professional and qualificalional structure of the labor force. The author proposes measures to improve the system for training and raising the qualifications of the labor force, in particular, to improve training in vocational and technical schools, tekhnikums, VUZ's and so forth.

We note in the interests of fairness that the work under review also contains individual controversial points. Thus, it seems to us that the author's suggestion that there is a need to conduct all worker training through the vocational and technical schools is unsubstantiated. In addition to the limited nature of the opportunities afforded by the system of vocational and technical training, it seems to us essential also to consider another factor that is making it expedient to train the labor force directly in production. We have in mind the unlimited possibilities for maneuvering the quality and quantity of trained personnel, passing on leading production experience to young workers while still at the

stage of formation and so forth. In our opinion, all this requires not a rejection of the system of personnel training in production, which today includes more than two-thirds of all newly trained workers, but the establishment of a more rational proportion between these two forms of labor force training.

Assessing the book as a whole it must be noted that it is a first, and in our view successful attempt to make a systematic approach to the examination of all aspects of population development. The book is written in a clear and accessible language for a broad range of readers.

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## REGIONAL

### ELECTRIFICATION PROGRAM IN EASTERN TAJIKISTAN

Dushanbe TOJIKISTONI SOVIETI in Tajiki 4 Jul 82 p 2

[Article by E Abakov, journalist: "The Ghund--electric river"]

[Text] Our report is a little informal. It does not come from the site of an actual event, such as the inauguration of a power station. In this office, the material objects of production are only at the planning stage.

Even so, anyone who sees this--a rough draft fresh off the drawing board, still smelling of paste--cannot fail to be excited. It is a scheme for utilization of the resources of the Ghund river, with the supporting technical and economic documentation for what will be Pamir hydroelectric power station No 1. This is an event that has been eagerly awaited in Tajikistan, especially in the Pamir. With the construction of the hydroelectric station, the Ghund and other mountain rivers of the "Roof of the World" will begin independent generation of energy to a concerted plan--not counting the Khorog hydroelectric station, which is already producing.

In spring, while the surface of the Yashil'kul' lake was still icebound, the area was twice visited by geodesists of the combined research expedition No 3 of the Central Asian Hydroelectricity Project, namely V. Samoteykin and A. Hafizov, under the leadership of veteran hydroelectrics expert V. P. Perov. In the course of two short Pamir summers they mapped the Yashil'kul' dam site and the course of the river from its upper to its lower reaches. An airborne hydrological team was also sent to the area. These units worked together with geologists and hydrophysicists under the leadership of the experienced research scientist, V. Fil'.

I close the first folder of the 17 volume project file. Volume one sets out considerations relating to conditions on the ground. I head for the long-term planning section to consult with the chief planning engineer of Pamir hydroelectric station No 1, Igor Konstantinovich Alekseyev. Igor Konstantinovich has frequently visited the site of the future construction on the banks of the Ghund, and knows the Pamir first hand. He explains the process of planning for the multiple utilization of the Sarez lake.

"Electrification of the Pamir--what is its practical significance?"

"At present, production of electric energy in the Pamir is considerably less per person than in Tajikistan as a whole," Alekseyev tells me. "After the Roghun hydroelectric station is built, production of electric energy in the republic will be doubled. But the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast, with a population of 130,000 that is rising rapidly, is cut off from the rest of the republic by high mountain ranges. It is not feasible to run power lines there from the large-capacity hydroelectric stations on the Vakhsh river. The oblast is forced to rely on its own energy sources--the Khorog hydroelectric station and two small diesel power stations, which in all generate about 20,000 kilowatts. Once Pamir hydroelectric station No. 1 goes into production with its 24,000-kilowatt capacity, the energy resources of this mountainous region will double, and with the inauguration of stations Nos. 2 and 3 will quadruple. All in all, a chain of high-head hydroelectric stations along the Ghund, ultimately fourteen in number, will together with the Khorog station be capable of generating 267,000 kilowatts, and will produce annually about 1.9 billion kwh of electric power.

Thanks to the high-head hydroelectric stations of the Pamir, many of the problems arising from the inaccessibility of the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast will be solved, including that of fuel; this must be replaced by cheap hydroelectricity. The Pamir hydroelectric station No. 1 will alone save 71,000 tons of conventional mineral fuels per year.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Tajikistan and the council of ministers of the republic show great concern for the progress of Gorno-Badakhshan and its prospects for development. Despite the extreme difficulty and great expense of constructing hydroelectric power stations in the Pamir, this course has been definitively adopted. The rapid expansion of hydroelectricity will ensure the future development of this mountainous land.

I. K. Alekseyev went on to explain: "Our work is concerned with carrying out this task. The planners have worked out the best methods for step-by-step utilization of the river. This enables us to produce electric power while keeping construction costs as low as possible. Energy from the hydroelectric station will help to improve living conditions for the mountain-dwellers and bring about great changes on their farms and in their homes. In the course of converting the Ghund river into the 'Electric river,' the foundations are being laid for a modern mining industry in the Pamir."

Such are the long-term prospects. As for the present, work on the Central Asian hydroelectricity project continues apace. V. M. Kulikov, the deputy engineer in charge of technical matters, water-use experts T. S. Minosyants and N. Sh. Kontsister, energy economists G. B. Taras'yova, R. A. Ghulomova and A. G. Kalashnikov, and B. F. Yakushevich, the expert on human economic aspects of the regions to undergo electrification are, in their words, up to their ears in engineering studies and calculations, compiling column after column of figures. Even the chief of the drafting section, candidate in technical sciences Ravil' Ibronivich Bakhtiyorov, is busy with similar studies and computations, which require not only familiarity with his own field but anticipation of the long-term consequences of the expansion of



hydroelectricity and wrestling with the knotty problems of water utilization. He relies in his work on the experience of veteran hydroelectricity expert G. K. Anoshkin, who finds and corrects any errors in even the most complex computations, whether of institute employees or of a wayward EVM. Both operate in accordance with the maxim that the objectives of the hydroelectricity program must be achieved cheaply and with the greatest possible benefit to the people.

For example: in the institute's Central Asian section, several possible methods of step-by-step utilization of the Ghund river were taken into consideration for the plan. Two noteworthy options were (a) a single hydroelectric station with a capacity of 70-80,000 kilowatts, or (b) a three-stage version of this, the first stage to have a capacity of 24,000 kilowatts.

Which of these alternatives would prove more beneficial? The answer lay in an analysis of the dynamics of the increase in utilization of electric energy in the Pamir. Where should the energy thus produced be expended? How soon could it profitably be used? The fact is, the factories presently in Khorog and adjacent regions are small-scale affairs, and the energy-consuming population is few in number. Considerable time and money would be needed either to renovate older plants or to build entirely new ones. A large-scale power station would be operating at a loss for some time, and would not be able to pay for itself even by the year 2000.

"It isn't feasible to send the energy produced in the Pamir power stations elsewhere," says D. A. Zhigaryov, chief engineer of the Central Asian section. "Quite simply, it's an insoluble problem. Accordingly, the experts in the institute and in this section have decided on the alternative of building several low-power stations. The TaSSR Gosplan has also accepted this option as being the cheapest and quickest available."

Two assembly units of the Pamir hydroelectric station No. 1, with a combined capacity of 12 kilowatts, will shortly be in service, followed by two more of the same type. Later still the first stage of Pamir station No. 2, then the second, will go into service. Similarly it is proposed to refurbish the Khorog station and raise its capacity from 8.3 to 15.3 megawatts.

The three proposed Pamir power stations will require low-capacity turbines which at the same time must be able to take on a race of up to 150 meters per second. How will these turbines hold up on the "Roof of the World"? It is a fact that at an altitude of 2,000 meters or more hydromechanical and electrotechnical apparatus breaks down, owing to the shortage of air and other high-altitude factors. The turbines will have to be of extra high quality. Besides this, the water of the Ghund contains a high concentration of quartz and flint chips, substances that are deleterious to water turbines and can cause them to jam. All these unusual conditions must of course be taken into account by the experts.

This, then, is Pamir hydroelectric station No. 1--a small one from the standpoint of technical and economic indices, and insignificant when compared

with other hydroelectric stations that have been built in various parts of the USSR. Be that as it may, and let Pamir station No. 1 cost what it may. It will not be less significant in point of quality and quantity of installations and complexity of technology than other, larger power stations. Nor will it be easy to build. But despite all, this station will be very profitable, since it will enable us to save on extremely expensive fuel--which, moreover, has to be trucked a great distance to the Pamir from Dushanbe and Ush. But the station's most important contribution lies in supplying power and light to the population of the autonomous oblast, cut off as they are from distant economic centers. The essential point is that, thanks to this, the high mountain regions will be totally transformed economically and culturally.

Rest assured, that bright day is near for Gorno-Badakhshan: from the energy of the turbulent rivers hundreds of electric suns will rise and shine forth.

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## REGIONAL

### STATE OF HEALTH CARE IN UKRAINE DISCUSSED

Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 10 Sep 82 p 2

[Article by A. Romanenko, Ukrainian SSR minister of health: "Health-- the Head of Everything"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have adopted a decree entitled "On Additional Measures to Improve the Population's Health". It contains further large-scale measures to improve health care in the country -- here is the meaning of this document.

The party is examining the forthcoming work to actively bring the capabilities of medicine closer to the individual as one of the important social tasks. A great deal has already been done in developing the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the party and government decrees which embrace questions on thoroughly improving the health service. Speaking about our republic, in-patient medical assets have increased considerably, the capability of polyclinics has grown quite a bit, and the detachment of doctors and mid-level medical workers has been replenished during the last three years. Consequently, village health care is improving. We now have more than a thousand medical out-patient clinics which bring, in earnest, highly qualified medical help to the rural population. Their number will grow by another 300 during the next few years.

However, alongside the achievements there are also -- and this is pointed out in the decree -- a number of deficiencies in health care. Deficiencies in the activity of polyclinics and first aid medical establishments and in the performance of preventive measures at a modern level have still not been eliminated everywhere. All establishments are not outfitted with equipment and medical technology which is responsive to today's requirements. The demand for medicinal preparations is not being completely satisfied. Science, which is busy with basic problems, does not concentrate its efforts to the required degree on the main avenue -- ways and means to prevent disease. Cases of medical personnel violating their service duty exist. Would that these cases were isolated! However, it is impossible to reconcile oneself to them. You see, if there are complaints, that means that there are also reasons and that there are doctors and nurses who are performing their work poorly and in a formal manner.

The party and government have required a number of organizations and departments to considerably improve their work in all the sectors which touch upon the people's health. This pertains not only to health care bodies but also to industry, agriculture, educational institutes, and public organizations. Such an arrangement and such an approach are exceptionally important.

Of course, medicine is today more complicated than yesterday in all its aspects-- economic, esthetic, scientific, and organizational. However, the key and deciding position is quite clear. It is further improving disease prevention measures, preventing traumas, protecting the environment, improving working and living conditions, and instilling in people a conscientious attitude toward their health. The watershed between health and disease runs through here.

The task of formulating a complex program to improve prevention measures and to strengthen the people's health and of implementing it everywhere has now been raised for the first time. Its distinctive features are: the broad hygienic education of the population, the consistent introduction of physical training and -- along with this -- the resolute improvement of public influence measures on people who are abusing alcohol, and the struggle against other harmful habits. An interdepartmental council has been created in the USSR Ministry of Health to coordinate this work. Such a council has also begun working in the Ukraine.

An increase in the role of sanitation and hygiene is not the least of the aspects. The attention and responsibility of not only the sanitary service but also of a number of industrial ministries and other departments will be concentrated now to a greater degree than before on the strict observance of sanitary rules and norms and labor safety standards and on the carrying out of sanitation measures.

Another new item in the practical approach to the task is the raising of the role and importance of mid-level medical personnel and additional benefits for the workers in this link, especially for those working in the area of special medical help. The following proposition is also exceptionally important. The directors of sovkhozes and other agricultural organizations and associations have been given the right to materially reward workers in rural district hospitals, outpatient clinics, physician assistant - midwife stations, and dispensaries, who have achieved successes in protecting the health of rural workers and who have lowered their sickness rate. The measures for encouraging those, who are concerned very much and in full measure with the health of the corn-growers, are very correct.

On the other hand, the daily duty of providing more effective help to the practitioner has been imposed on medical science subdivisions. During the 11th and subsequent five-year plans, the network of consultative and diagnostic polyclinics will be expanded on the base of medical VUZ and scientific research institutes, and the number of remote diagnostic centers-- primarily cardiological ones -- will be increased. One should not fail to point out that such polyclinics are successfully operating in urology, cardiological, clinical, experimental surgical, pediatric, obstetrical, gynecological, and neurosurgical institutes and in a number of other scientific centers of the republic. However, there are still quite a few reserves here.

New and broad efforts to improve maternity and child care -- this task was put forward as the primary one in the decree of the party and government. Here are the starting points: improving the pre-natal care of the fetus including an expansion of the role and capabilities of medical hygiene consultation centers and -- at the same time -- cardinal measures to prevent sickness in preschool establishments and to improve the health of children and teenagers.

Steps, which open up new ways to further improve the material and technical base of pediatric and midwife-gynecological establishments, are being taken. Their reconstruction and construction through the investments, which have been allotted for the building of production projects, are being expanded. Indeed, this is a new manifestation of our party's Leninist concern for the mother and child.

The health care organization of the Soviet Ukraine is ready to carry out this program in all its sections. I would like to point out that its ties with the industrial ministries and agricultural enterprises rest on solid and fruitful traditions and on active cooperation. For example, new child and midwife buildings have recently been put into operation in Balakleya, Kupyansk, Pervomaysk, Krivoy Rog, Tokmak, Dnepropetrovsk, Dolina, Kosov, and Burshtyn. Enterprises of the union and republic Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, Ministry of Chemical Industry, Ministry of Gas Industry, Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building, Ministry of Industrial Construction, and the Ministry of Agriculture and sovkhozes directly participated in this construction. Ivano-Frankovsk Oblast is an example of the active development of rural health care. Children's hospitals and sections and obstetrical and gynecological buildings are being constructed extremely actively in Kiyevshchina through the cooperating resources of the kolkhozes and sovkhozes. However, there is no doubt that all of us together can and must do much more. The party directs us towards this.

The great measures to further improve the health of the Soviet people will be carried out parallel with the implementation of the Food Program. The people's good -- this is the main concern of the Communist Party and the subject of its untiring efforts. The republic's medical workers will honorably perform their high duty to improve the health and extend the active and creative life of the Soviet people.

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